

EC says 'not worried' about flawed indelible ink
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By Boo Su-Lyn

KUALA LUMPUR, May 5 — The Election Commission (EC) said today that it is not worried about the election ink that can be washed off, stressing that voters cannot vote twice with one IC number.

Several voters have reported washing off the election ink, which is meant to be indelible to prevent double voting, after casting their ballots today, with just soap and water.

"I'm not worried about indelible ink washed off today because tomorrow you cannot vote," EC deputy chairman Datuk Wan Ahmad Wan Omar told reporters at SMK Bukit Bandaraya polling centre in Bangsar here today.

"How is he going to vote without a MyKad or an IC number? One rakyat's name is only stated once," he added.

Asked about the quality of the election ink, the main safeguard against fraud, Wan Ahmad said: "The supplier sent what kind of quality, we don't know."

When pointed out that the EC had a year to get the best quality ink, Wan Ahmad said it was a "complicated" process.

A businessman, who only wanted to be known as Mr Lee, showed a clean index finger separately to reporters here despite being marked with ink after voting in Bukit Gasing, Petaling Jaya.

"I don't think this is indelible. I used detergent from the kitchen. It's one of the cheap brands," said Lee, adding that he had come here to meet a friend.

Election 2013, which is touted to be the tightest electoral race in history, has been marred with reports of indelible ink that can be removed easily, vote-buying and phantom voters.

Wan Ahmad, however, dismissed reports of phantom voters in the 13th general election, saying: "Everybody can make reports. I went to tell the people, don't believe them."

He stressed that foreigners did not have MyKads, and hence could not vote.

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