

Anwar criticises Ahmad Zahid "shoot first" statement, says should go for basic law training

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Shooting suspected criminals without any warning will lead to a "massive shooting spree", warned Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (pic).

In criticising Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi for his "shoot first, ask later" statement, the opposition leader said the former should go for basic law training.

"If a particular criminal is armed with pistols and M16s, then I don't think the police should be asked to negotiate," he said at a Press conference at the PKR headquarters today.

"But you cannot make a blanket statement like that. You're giving a very dangerous... there will be a huge shooting spree."

Ahmad Zahid, speaking at a function in Malacca last Friday, was quoted as saying that police would not hesitate to shoot criminals first and ask questions later.

Excerpts of his speech were recorded and given to a news portal. He had said that 28,000 of the 40,000 gang members were identified to be of Indian ethnicity, and that there was nothing wrong in detaining them.

"What is the situation of robbery victims, murder victims during shootings? Most of them are Malays. Most of them are our race.

"I think the best way is that we no longer compromise with them. There is no need to give them any more warning. If we get the evidence, we shoot first," he was recorded as saying.

The opposition had condemned Ahmad Zahid's remarks, with DAP chairman Karpal Singh saying that it was licence for police to commit murder. - October 9, 2013.

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