

Najib wants cops to probe breach of barricade in Petaling Street
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Just hours after saying he was moved by the large, peaceful crowd at the Himpunan Rakyat Bersatu or "red shirt" rally today, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak urged police to investigate the attempt to breach the police barricade at Petaling Street.

In a tweet this evening, Najib said the incident, which led to police using chemical-laced water cannon on the crowd, should not have happened during the rally, which proceeded peacefully otherwise.

"We were informed that the rally in KL ended peacefully except for an incident. @PDRMsia should investigate. Shouldn't have happened. All must abide by instructions," he tweeted.

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In the 4.30pm incident, a crowd of 1,000 unruly rally goers demanded to be allowed in to Petaling Street, which police had blocked.

Police later fired water cannons at the crowd to keep them away from the blockade.

The prime minister and his deputy Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi had earlier expressed their surprise and said they were moved by the large show of support for the "red shirt" rally and the peaceful way it was carried out.

This was announced by Ketereh MP Tan Sri Annuar Musa in his speech at Padang Merbok, saying he had received a call from Najib.

"I just got a call from the prime minister, who has sent his regards to all here," he said.

"The prime minister and his deputy, who are now in Sabah, have expressed their shock at the number of people at this assembly that has gone on peacefully."

Annuar also dismissed the incident at Petaling Street, saying that those who were involved were not part of the group and urged police to take action against the culprits.

"We are checking. When we checked with our leaders, groups and security personnel, all of them are here. Who are the people there?"

"Action must be taken, organisers want action to be taken and organisers will not defend them. I hope police take stern action," he said, declaring the rally a success as 250,000 people had attended the rally. – September 16, 2015.

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