

Muhyiddin supports Sosma for terrorism, not government critics
Malaysian Insider
Oct 14, 2015

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said he had always supported the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act 2012 (Sosma) but only against terrorism.

What he was against, the former deputy prime minister said, was the use of the law against government critics like former Umno leader Datuk Seri Khairuddin Abu Hassan and lawyer Matthias Chang.

"My stand has never changed. I support Sosma to address security offences that threaten peace and public harmony.

"What I disagree with is the abuse of Sosma against the original aim of the act when it was enacted," he said in a statement today.

Muhyiddin was responding to the criticism against him for joining Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and other Barisan Nasional (BN) veterans in criticising Putrajaya's use of the act against the government's detractors.

Umno minister Datuk Seri Abdul Rahman Dahlan had "reminded" Muhyiddin that he was the parliament whip who made sure all ruling coalition lawmakers voted to pass the law in Parliament.

Khairuddin and Chang are facing a charge of attempted economic sabotage under the Penal Code. The charge is a security offence under Sosma and their detention is also under the same act.

Khairuddin, accompanied by Chang, had lodged reports with enforcement agencies overseas against state-owned investment firm 1Malaysia Development Berhad's (1MDB) alleged financial wrongdoings.

Muhyiddin said this could not be considered an act of sabotage under the Penal Code as both men were only acting as concerned citizens.

Muhyiddin, who was dropped as deputy prime minister in a Cabinet reshuffle in July, said his position on Sosma was in line with Putrajaya's political transformation, whereby the government had agreed that Sosma would not be misused for political motives and against freedom of expression.

"Is 1MDB so immune that those who criticise or lodge a report against it will be charged in court? A rationale thinking person will definitely ask who actually is sabotaging the country's banking and financial services system.

"(Is it) those who lodge reports with the authorities to probe claims of wrongdoings in 1MDB or those who cause billions of people's money in 1MDB to disappear? Will Umno leaders only continue to remain silent and be in cahoots with the masterminds?

Muhyiddin said. – October 14, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/muhyiddin-supports-sosma-f-or-terrorism-not-government-critics>