

## **Amanah Youth lodges nationwide police reports against EC**

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**By Nawar Firdaws**

**Members of youth wing allege that certain quarters alarmed by the rise in new voters, are trying to interfere with access to information, with the help of the EC.**

KUALA LUMPUR: Members of Amanah's Youth wing, fearing possible interference in the registration of new voters, have lodged police reports, calling for the Election Commission (EC) to be probed.

In a press conference outside the Dang Wangi police headquarters here today, Federal Territories Amanah Youth chief Nik Abdul Razak said 14 police reports had been lodged nationwide against the EC.

"The first quarter of 2017 shows that there is a 500% rise in new voter registration and a change of voting addresses, compared to the same quarter in previous years.

"At the same time, the EC has suddenly refused to provide us a soft copy of the list, which I don't think is a coincidence.

"There is something suspicious with what's going on, and that's why we have lodged police reports on the matter."

He said there was also the possibility that some quarters had "panicked" over the rise in number of new voters, and hence were trying to interfere with the opposition's access to information, with the help of the EC.

According to Nik, who was accompanied by Amanah Youth chief Mohd Sany Hamzan, there were over 246,000 registered new voters in the first quarter of this year.

He also said the EC had admitted last week that it had left out another 28,000 names comprising uniformed officers and their spouses.

Out of this figure, 7,000 were from the Federal Territories, said Nik.

"At best, this mistake is an embarrassment. How can the EC, who has vast experience managing elections, miss out 28,000 names?

"At worst, there is a huge possibility that a wrongdoing has been committed. This, to us, is very suspicious. So the police have to investigate this immediately."

Nik also argued that while the information was still accessible to the public, the absence of a soft copy as well as the condition that the supplementary electoral roll be viewed only at the EC's offices, made it impossible for the opposition to review it.

This is especially so as the opposition was only given two weeks to study the supplementary electoral roll, and to object to it if need be, he added.

"We have to either take pictures of the electoral roll or photostat it there, with our own photocopy machine.

"But imagine, the document on one parliamentary seat contains around 1,000 to 1,500 pages. And we have 222 parliamentary seats, which means we have to photostat at least 222,000 pages.

"That's impossible to do in two weeks."

Asked what Amanah Youth planned to do if their police reports came to nothing, Nik said they planned to send a memorandum to the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia on June 6.

Their last resort would be to send another memorandum, this time to the Yang di-Pertua Agong, and the Council of Rulers, he said.

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