

Temple task force claims Muhammad Adib was hit by fire engine, not assaulted

BERNAMA

28/11/2018

SUBANG JAYA, Nov 28 -- The Save Sri Maha Mariamman Temple task force today claimed that firefighter Muhammad Adib Mahd Kassim sustained injuries after being hit by a fire engine and not from assault as reported.

Its chairman S. Ramaji said he had evidence showing the crowd at the time helped pulling injured Muhammad Adib, from Subang Jaya Fire and Rescue station's Emergency, Medical and Rescue Services (EMRS) unit, after he was accidentally pinned behind the fire engine.

He said Muhammad Adib had alighted from the vehicle when the incident occurred, but the fire engine had suddenly reversed and caused the victim to be caught in between the vehicles.

"Members of the public who were at the scene quickly rushed the victim to the hospital," he told reporters at a special media conference here today.

Meanwhile, the task force secretary VK Ragu said the video also showed that the crowd did not hit the fireman, but actually tried to alert the fire engine to stop and brought the injured fireman to the hospital.

"You can see from the video that the fireman was hit by the fire engine when it reversed suddenly and he was thrown against a fire rescue van that was behind the fire engine," he said.

The 30-second video that went viral on Facebook showed a fire engine was reversing in rush during the commotion.

Muhammad Adib was previously reported to be in critical condition after being assaulted by a group of men in early Tuesday morning incident.

It was also reported that rioters had dragged him out of his vehicle and assaulted him causing him to sustain broken ribs, punctured lungs and other internal injuries.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the incident was a criminal act and had nothing to do with racial issues.

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