



**MEDIA STATEMENT
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA (SUHAKAM)**

EDITOR, NEWS DESK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUHAKAM DEMANDS URGENT ACTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
AFFECTING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

KUALA LUMPUR (21 SEPTEMBER 2024) - The Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) expresses its profound concern over what appears to be a persistent neglect of critical human rights issues impacting vulnerable communities, despite the call from us (SUHAKAM) and the repeated calls for action from civil societies and the individual affected.

In particular, SUHAKAM alludes to the alleged complaint of assault by Mr. Ong In Keong, the e-hailing cab driver, a person with disability, against a police officer. The alleged incident took place in May 2024, about almost 4 months ago. But, sadly, until today, no prosecutorial action has been taken against the said police officer.

SUHAKAM reiterates what we have stated in our previous media statement of 16 August 2024.

SUHAKAM is deeply dismayed by the deafening silence on the part of the Attorney General cum Public Prosecutor on the issue as to whether prosecutorial proceeding will be taken against the police officer concerned; or otherwise.

If the Attorney General cum Public Prosecutor takes the position that he does not intend to prosecute the said police officer, he must announce it to the public stating his reasons in clear terms for the decision not to prosecute.

On the other hand, if the Attorney General cum Public Prosecutor has in mind to prosecute the police officer concerned, with respect, why is he taking so long to do so, as the case is a straightforward case of assault under the Penal Code.

The learned Honourable Attorney General needs no reminder that justice delayed is justice denied to the said Mr. Ong, the alleged victim. Under Article 8 of the Federal Constitution everyone is equal before the law and is entitled to the equal protection of the law – and this includes Mr. Ong.

We strongly repeat what we had said earlier. No person should be denied of his human rights, let alone a person belonging to a vulnerable community.

As this is a case of public interest involving a person with disability, a member of the vulnerable community, the Attorney General, as the guardian of public conscience, has a constitutional and moral duty to publicly address the issue. Good governance, the principle of transparency and the Rule of Law expects him to do so.

Silence is not an option on the part of the Attorney General.



**MEDIA STATEMENT
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA (SUHAKAM)**

There should not be this public perception that the criminal justice system has been compromised or undermined.

SUHAKAM awaits the response of the Attorney General.

-END-

The Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)

Date: 21 September 2024