

## 13 PRIOR CASES

# IPs on balloon trader, DBKL fracas sent to A-GC

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Two of three investigation papers opened in connection with the altercation between a balloon trader and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) officers in Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman have been referred to the Attorney-General's Chambers.

Federal Criminal Investigation Department director Datuk Seri Mohd Shuhaily Mohd Zain said the IPs were opened under Sections 186 and 325 of the Penal Code for obstructing a public servant and voluntarily causing grievous hurt.

"The investigation opened under Section 506 of the Penal Code for criminal intimidation is pending feedback from the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission over a website linked to the case," he said at Bukit Aman yesterday.

It was learned that the balloon trader, who earned the nickname "abang belon" from netizens, has a record involving 13 prior cases, the majority of which are drug-related offences. Sources revealed that the suspect had been charged for six of these offences.

Shuhaily urged the public to avoid getting drawn into issues involving emotions.

"The public should be mature, abide by the law and work together to maintain national harmony," he said.

It was reported that chaos erupted in Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman recently when a DBKL raid on unlicensed traders escalated into a brawl. Videos of enforcement personnel and traders pushing and shoving went viral.

The altercation reportedly began when authorities attempted to confiscate merchandise from a balloon seller.

Kuala Lumpur deputy police chief Datuk Azry Akmar Ayob said three reports had been lodged.

The first report was made by a DBKL enforcement officer and is being investigated under Section 186 of the Penal Code for obstructing a civil servant in the course of his duties.

The second report was made by another DBKL officer about the circulation of their photo on Facebook, accompanied by threatening remarks.

The third report was lodged by the balloon trader's mother yesterday.