

## SBY form team to allay 'mistrust'

Written by  
Sunday, 01 April 2012 11:51 -

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The Jakarta Post  
Jakarta, November 3, 2009

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono set up a fact-finding team to review the case implicating two leaders of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) amid mounting public anger across the country.

Team chairman Adnan Buyung Nasution said Monday the team was established in response to growing "mistrust" amongst people toward the arrest of Chandra Hamzah and Bibit Samad Rianto who were detained last week by police.

"The team will work for two weeks starting Tuesday. [We] will facilitate if the team needs more time [to complete its task]," Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Djoko Suyanto told a press conference.

The team also includes former National Commission on Human Rights member Kusparmono Irsan as deputy chairman and the President's special staffer on legal affairs Denny Indrayana as secretary.

The team's members are prominent human rights lawyer Todung Mulya Lubis, Paramadina University rector Anies Baswedan, Democratic Party executive Amir Syamsuddin, Islamic State University rector Komarudin Hidayat and University of Indonesia law professor Hikmahanto Juwana.

Bibit and Chandra were declared suspects on Sept. 15 and detained on Oct. 29 for alleged power abuse and bribery.

Public speculation that the two KPK officials were being criminalized was recently backed up by a widely-published transcript of voice recordings of plans by police and the Attorney General's

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Office to fabricate evidence framing the pair in criminal cases.

Besides high-ranking police and AGO officials, the recordings, set to be played before the Constitutional Court on Tuesday, also mention Yudhoyono.

The detention of the KPK leaders has sparked outcry, as thousands of people in major cities across the country took the streets on Monday while more than 500,000 people signed up to a Facebook group in support of Chandra and Bibit as of Monday.

Although the National Police headquarters officially rejected calls to dismiss National Police chief of detectives Comr. Gen. Susno Duadji, an officer often mentioned in the recordings, from his position by Monday evening, a source inside the headquarters confirmed the three-star general had been suspended.

"The generals' meeting suspended him to allow the -fact-finding team to verify the case. With Susno being suspended there will be no conflict of interest," the officer said.

"Of course, [the recordings] will be part of our task. The team will also watch for and listen to the recordings, which will be raves a Constitutional Court hearing tomorrow [Tuesday]," he said.

"But the independence of the team's members remains in question since part of them are linked to President Yudhoyono," Setara Institute executive director Hendaradi said.

Prosperous Justice Party (PKB) legislator, Nasir Jamil, questioned the effectiveness of the team to reveal the mastermind of the case due to its lack of legitimacy.

Unity Development Party (PPP) legislator Ahmad Yani questioned the authority of the team.

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Golkar also rejected the establishment of the team, saying involving outsiders to resolve a legal case between the KPK and the police had violated the principle of law enforcement in Indonesia.