

## DISAPPEARED

# COPS PROBING ALL ANGLES IN MISSING IRISH TEEN CASE

We have not ruled out foul play, says state police deputy chief

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ALTHOUGH the disappearance of Irish teenager Nora Anne Quoirin, 15, has been classified as a missing person case, police have not ruled out any angle, including abduction.

State police deputy chief Senior Assistant Commissioner Che Zakaria Othman said investigations on every possible angle were being conducted.

"When there's a missing person case, investigations are not confined to a certain angle.

"We are looking at all angles, involving various elements, including foul play," he said.

He said police had recorded statements from 20 people, including Quoirin's family members.

"We have recorded statements from the teenager's family members, resort staff, as well as local residents. It is a big-scale investigation.

"We are also being assisted by teams from Bukit Aman's Criminal Investigation Department and forensics unit," he said at the Pantai police station near here.

Che Zakaria added that police had received the results of an analysis conducted on finger-

prints retrieved from one of the windows in the resort.

This is the window through which Quoirin was believed to have exited the place at The Dusun resort, where she and her family had been staying.

However, Che Zakaria declined to reveal further details of the fingerprint analysis.

Asked if police had included those closest to Quoirin as suspects in the case, he refused to comment.

However, he said police were checking with the Immigration Department on the entry record of the entire family.

On repeated claims by Quoirin's parents that their daughter had been abducted, Che Zakaria said the matter was understandable, considering the despair the family was going through.

"Their daughter is missing and of course they are sad and worried about her safety. However, we will not stop our efforts to find Quoirin," he said.

Quoirin, who is reported to have learning disabilities, arrived in Negri Sembilan with her parents and two other siblings on Aug 3 for a two-week holiday at The Dusun resort near here.

She was reported missing the next day, prompting the authorities to launch a search-and-rescue operation.

On the security features at The Dusun, Che Zakaria said the resort did not have any security guard and had only one closed-circuit television camera, which was installed at the registration counter.



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**CHE ZAKARIA OTHMAN**  
Negri Sembilan police deputy chief



Members of the Water Rescue Team searching for missing Irish teenager Nora Anne Quoirin near a resort in Pantai, Negri Sembilan, yesterday. PIC BY ADZLAN SIDER

## 'Availability of water source will help teen survive'

**SEREMBAN:** The Fire and Rescue Department team remains optimistic that Irish teenager Nora Anne Quoirin, 15, who has been missing since Sunday at a resort in Pantai near here, is alive.

Seremban Fire and Rescue Station chief Mohammad Idris said this was due to the available water source in the surrounding area, which would help the teenager survive despite being deprived of food for several days.

"If there is a river in the area, chances of the girl surviving are

high. Therefore, our search operation today (yesterday) is concentrated along the river to detect the possible presence of the girl," he said yesterday.

Mohammad said the strength of the team had also been expanded yesterday to about 40 people, including personnel from the Kuala Lumpur and Selangor teams.

He said the team had yet to find any traces of the girl.

"We've been helping out since day one. The teams are divided into four groups according to

search sectors, including in the forest area.

"A total of 10 Water Rescue Team members have been deployed for diving operations at the river's base and the search has covered 2km."

On Tuesday, state police chief Datuk Mohamad Mat Yusop said the search for the teenager was facing difficulties as the police K9 Unit's ability to pick up the trace of the girl was limited to 100m from where she was last seen at the resort.