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Hamid-Syariah

SYARIAH JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT SOON

MELAKA, July 24 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Syariah Judiciary Department is expected to be established by the end of the year as part of the revamping of the Syariah Court administration, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Abdul Hamid Othman said.

He said with the establishment of the department, syariah court administration would be restructured and be more systematic.

"The restructuring will involve all employees of the Syariah Courts in the states including judges and supporting staff," he told reporters after a news conference on the 17th National-Level Quran Memorising Assembly at Masjid Al-Azim here, last night.

Yesterday Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced that the Syariah Court nationwide would be restructured and upgraded.

The upgrading included the creation of a common-user service for Syariah Officers.

Dr Hamid said the federal government had agreed to assist the state government in restructuring the Islamic Affairs administration.

He said the restructuring would also include training programmes for the staff to create uniformity in the courts.

"As we know, after being appointed a Syariah High Court judge...the salary will be much higher," he said.

He said the recruitment of officers would no longer be a problem to the states because recruitment and posting would be dealt with by the central body.

"By the inclusion of Islam in the nation's main stream of administration, we can say that we have made a major change in the administration of Islamic affairs in the country. --BERNAMA

MYD ARA AAM