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MELAKA GOVT MULLS EARLY CLOSURE OF NIGHTSPOTS

MELAKA, Feb 9 (Bernama) -- The Melaka government is studying the possibility of closing nightspots earlier than 1am in efforts to combat social ills among youths, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Zin Abdul Ghani said today.

He said a committee jointly chaired by the State Executive Councillor for Islamic Religious Affairs Datuk Mo'min Abdul Aziz and State Mufti Haji Rashid Redza had been set up to look into best ways to tackle the social ills.

The committee has been given three months to conduct the study and submit a report to the state government, he told reporters at the Hari Raya "open house" at his official residence "Seri Bendahara" in Bukit Peringgit here.

He was commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's Hari Raya Aidil Fitri message calling on Malaysians to be conscious of the ills affecting society particularly Malay youths and seek ways to overcome them.

Mohd Zin said it was meaningless for Malaysia to be a developed country if "we cannot cope with the social ills which could stifle the government's efforts to achieve Vision 2020."

He said although social problems in the state were not serious, the state government would launch campaigns and instil awareness through Friday sermons to combat the ills. -- BERNAMA

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