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Islam-PAS

PAS AGREES TO UNIFORM IMPLEMENTATION OF ISLAMIC LAWS

ALOR SETAR, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- While most states welcomed the proposed uniform implementation of Islamic laws, PAS wants the federal government to prepare a "blue print" on the proposal.

Its president, Fadzil Noor, said the "blue print" on standardising the various state Islamic laws should also be made available to all concerned, including the public for their views.

It should not be produced only for the Rulers, he said.

In principle, PAS was supportive of the government proposal, he said, describing the move as most vital as it would ensure uniformity of law enforcement and the penalties meted out under the Islamic jurisprudence for the entire nation, he said.

However, PAS would certainly like to study the matter in greater detail, and particularly the provisions to be standardised and the form of uniformity to be arrived at.

The proposal for uniform law enforcement had received the Rulers' blessings at the 176th meeting of the Rulers Conference in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who announced this said only Kedah which was not a member of the Rulers' Committee on Religious Affairs had chosen to wait for the findings before making its decision.

Fadzil said the scope of hudud laws relating to certain religious and criminal offences, where the penalties were not prescribed by the Al-Quran and the Hadis, should be given emphasis in efforts to standardise state Islamic laws.

Meanwhile in KOTA BAHARU, Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, in welcoming the proposal, said the standardising of the Islamic laws should have been done long ago.

He said there had been contradictions among the states in their enforcement posture, simply because of they had different laws though Islam had set the rules.

"I hope the federal government will implement the proposal wisely so that it will not create problems in future," he said in his weekly talk to party supporters at the state PAS liaison office here.

In JOHOR BAHARU, Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman said the state government was in full support of the proposal.

All the Menteris Besar were briefed by Dr Mahathir yesterday, he said.

He said that the federal and state governments would work closely to standardise the Islamic laws.

The uniformity proposal would resolve the various problems faced by religious administration as there would no longer be differing laws for the states, he added.

In SABAK BERNAM, Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, welcoming the proposal, said the Selangor government was long prepared for this.

The state government would give its fullest cooperation to the special committee set up under the Prime Minister's Department to work towards standardising the Islamic laws, he told reporters after visiting the proposed site of a housing project under the state's hardcore poor rehabilitation programme here.

Abu Hassan however said the state government would give more emphasis on educating the public for their understanding of such laws, rather than concentrating efforts on their enforcement.

The public should have advance information before any enforcement was carried out, he added. -- BERNAMA
AZH AR RM