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Gerak seeks audience with King to present memo

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Malaysian People's Justice Movement (Gerak) is seeking an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar to present a memorandum containing their views, its head Datuk Fadzil Noor said today.

Fadzil, who is also Pas president, said the King had yet to give his consent for the audience.

He declined to reveal the contents of the memorandum.

Fadzil said this after chairing the movement's meeting at Pas headquarters at Taman Melewar, Gombak today.

Also present were Pas deputy Youth chief Mahfuz Omar, DAP national vice-chairmen Ahmad Nor and Dr Tan Seng Giaw, Parti Rakyat Malaysia president Dr Syed Husin Ali and representatives from five non-governmental organisations from a total of 11 NGOs in the movement.

Gerak, which is calling on the Government to abolish the Internal Security Act, comprises Pas, DAP, PRM and NGOs.

Among the topics discussed were the proposed meeting of Gerak leaders with newspaper editors, the movement's rally scheduled on Oct 17 and its activities.

Fadzil said they had proposed to meet the editors of the New Straits Times, Berita Harian and Utusan Malaysia, two days ago but it was called off.

"We are trying to fix another date for the meeting as we feel we need to speak to the editors," he said, adding that at the moment the media was not being fair in their coverage of those not supporting the Government.

In Kota Baru, Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said Pas respects the decision of the police not to allow any party to organise public rallies.

Pas, which had planned the Oct 17 rally, would also not appeal in the matter, he said.

Last night in Temerloh, the movement distributed postcards to those attending its rally in Sungai Gau, here, as part of its campaign to urge the Government to repeal the ISA.

The cards also carry several other messages to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

These are calls to stop using slander as a weapon to oust an individual before he is proven guilty by the court, for him to step down or alternatively call for a general election immediately and stop using public institutions, police, judiciary and mass media for personal interests.

Deputy Pas Youth leader Mahfuz Omar, one of the four speakers at the gathering, said Gerak would be launching a homepage on the Internet for the public to follow its activities.

The other speakers were PRM president Dr Syed Husin Ali, Ikatan Siswazah Muslim Malaysia deputy chairman Dr Zulkifli Muhammad and Teras Keupayaan Melayu representative Mohd Sanusi Mohd Nor.

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