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Senate-Islam

PUTRAJAYA'S DEVELOPMENT IN LINE WITH ISLAMIC CONCEPT

KUALA LUMPUR, July 26 (Bernama) -- The development of Putrajaya is consistent with the Islamic concept that stresses on the relationship between man and God, man and man, and man and the environment, Senator Datuk Zainudin Maidin said today.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed himself had directed that the Putra Mosque be included in the first phase of Putrajaya's development to give priority to the concept with regard to relationship between man and God.

"Not many people know that Dr Mahathir had decided to pray at Masjid Putra before starting his duties at his new office," he said when debating on the Consular Relations (Vienna Convention) Bill at the Dewan Negara.

Zainudin said the new Foreign Ministry building in Putrajaya would have a beautiful design and sophisticated features in line with the the government's wish to uphold the concept with regard to the relationship between man and man.

Putrajaya also had many parks and lakes aimed at enhancing the relationship between man and the environment, he added.

Zainudin said the people should not view Putrajaya just as a mega project of Dr Mahathir and overlook the fact that it was a sophisticated administrative centre upholding the Islamic concept, that could serve as a model for other Muslim nations.

Senator Datuk Mohd Zuki Kamaluddin, who also debated on the bill, called on the government to appoint politicians no longer holding any posts in the government as diplomats.

Similarly, non-politician diplomats could be appointed to head ministries like the Foreign Ministry and the Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry, he said.

He cited the case of Datuk Seri Sabbaruddin Chik, the former culture, arts and tourism minister who had previously been a diplomat.

The bill was later passed by the Dewan Negara.

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