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Monitoring ceramah in surau

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - The Government will monitor activities in suraus of Government departments to ensure civil servants are not influenced by Opposition propaganda.

Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali said anti-Government talk should not take place at these places because regulations do not allow unauthorised speakers from conducting ceramah there.

"The Islamic Development Department has issued a circular to this effect," Abdul Halim added.

He was speaking to reporters after attending the opening of Malaysia Incorporated Summit 2000 by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at Istana Hotel.

Asked to comment on religious talks by unauthorised speakers during lunch breaks in such surau, Abdul Halim said firm action was needed in dealing with the matter.

He said the involvement of senior government officials in activities organised by their department's surau would be enhanced to prevent the "entry" of unauthorised speakers.

He added it could be true that the majority of surau committee members in Government departments were from the lower ranks.

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