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PAS GOVT REMINDED NOT TO MISLEAD PEOPLE OVER OIL ROYALTY

KUALA TERENGGANU, June 27 (Bernama) -- A Terengganu Umno official has cautioned the PAS-led state government not to distort the oil royalty issue and mislead the people, as, according to him, royalty payment is not a matter of right but only a privilege.

Dungun Umno division information chief Senator Rosli Mat Hassan said today that the people in Terengganu should be able to discern between a right and a privilege.

"When it was run by the BN (Barisan Nasional) and sharing common development policies, the federal government accorded Terengganu the privilege (of getting the royalty), but now that it is under PAS, it is only appropriate that the privilege be reviewed," he said.

PAS unseated the BN state government in last November's general election.

Rosli, who is chairman of the Malaysian Malay Chambers of Commerce committee on petrochemical downstream activities, was speaking to Bernama in reaction to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's announcement yesterday on the review of legislations relating to oil royalty payment to Terengganu.

Rosli also proposed that the review take into account the PAS-run state government's ability to bring development to Terengganu if the federal government were to continue paying oil royalty to the state.

According to Rosli, the PAS manifesto for the last general election lacked concrete development plans for the state and that "till today they have not provided any indication of the ability to bring about development to Terengganu."

-- BERNAMA

AYB RYN