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NVP-Body

ACTIVISTS WANT INDEPENDENT BODY TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NVP

KUALA LUMPUR, April 4 (Bernama) -- Three social figures today called for the setting up of an independent body to monitor the implementation of the National Vision Policy (NVP) tabled in tandem with the Third Outline Perspective Plan (OPP3) in Parliament yesterday.

National Unity Advisory Panel member Datuk Lee Lam Thye said it was essential to ensure just and smooth implementation of the NVP in order to achieve its objectives.

"What is even more important is to ensure there is no deviation from the objectives of the NVP which will take Malaysia towards its objective of achieving developed nation status," he said in a statement.

In tabling the OPP3 and NVP, the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the NVP aimed to achieve 7.5 per cent growth and double the per capita income by 2010.

It is also geared towards a knowledge-based economy, eradicating poverty and providing Malays a larger stake in the economy.

Lee said the proposed independent body should comprise eminent and respected individuals of diverse races and backgrounds backed up by the Economic Planning Unit to monitor the implementation of the NVP.

Unionist N.Siva Subramaniam said the proposed independent monitoring body should be tasked with ensuring quality and detecting any defects in the implementation of the NVP.

"We praise the OPP3, it is one of the best (policies) and is very good for the people but there should be a monitoring body to ensure such good policy be implemented promptly," the Cuepacs president told Bernama.

Although government policies have proven to be sound and beneficial to the people, their implementation could be ridden with pitfalls, said leader of the country's largest public sector employees union.

Federation of Malaysian Consumer Associations president Prof Hamdan Adnan said it was crucial for the proposed body to have a transparent administration and comprise independent people willing to voice opinions even contrary to government views for the good of the policy.

According to Hamdan, it would save cost to have one policy and ensure its full implementation rather than so many policies which fail to meet their objectives.

-- BERNAMA  
ZAI AHH RYN