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Fadzil: Pre-conditions stand

PENDANG, Fri. - Pas president Datuk Fadzil Noor has reiterated the party's stand that it will meet Umno only if its pre-conditions are met.

"We consider the conditions very fair and appropriate.

"It is up to Umno whether to take them seriously or not," he said.

Fadzil said Pas considered its pre-conditions like the restoration of petroleum royalties to the Terengganu Government and the Harakah permit issue as very 'light demands' (tuntutan ringan).

"If they can't even accept these pre-conditions how then are they going to meet heavier demands later on (during the talks)?" he asked reporters after speaking at a ceramah at Kampung Alor Keladi, Padang Pusing near here last night.

He was commenting on Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that Pas should state very clearly whether or not it wanted to participate in the unity talks.

On suggestions for ceramah to be banned nationwide, Fadzil said it was inappropriate and undemocratic to do so.

Fadzil said ceramah were a forum for the Opposition and any attempts to ban them were tantamount to shutting up the Opposition.

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