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Hadi-Dialogue

PAS WILLING TO HOLD DIALOGUE WITH UMNO OVER ISLAMIC STATE

KUALA TERENGGANU, Oct 4 (Bernama) -- PAS said it is willingness to discuss academically the interpretation of an Islamic state to avoid public confusion over the issue and let the people have a clear picture.

Party deputy president and Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said: "They (Umno) can fix the venue and date."

Abdul Hadi was responding to the religious adviser to the Prime Minister Tan Sri Dr Abdul Hamid Othman's statement on his readiness for a dialogue with PAS on the interpretation of an Islamic state.

"The proposed dialogue should not look for argument winners or losers but to seek for the truth to the topic to be discussed," Abdul Hadi told reporters after launching an auto carnival at the Terengganu Trade Centre here today.

Abdul Hadi said he backed PAS president Datuk Fadzil Noor's suggestion that the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad declare in Parliament that Malaysia is an Islamic state so that MPs can debate over it.

In his speech earlier, Abdul Hadi said the state government was drawing up Terengganu's industrialisation plan up to year 2010 with emphasis on the manufacturing sector.

He said Terengganu has vast potentials for development as a manufacturing hub especially for automotive industries.

"Given that even Pekan district in Pahang can emerge as a key automotive-manufacturing centre, I do not see why the same cannot be done in Terengganu and the state government is moving towards this end," Abdul Hadi added.

-- BERNAMA
AYB MAI RYN