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MBM-media

SET UP NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR MASS MEDIA, SAYS MBM

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 28 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Youth Council (MBM) has suggested that a national consultative council for the mass media be set up to receive input on national aspirations.

Its vice-president, Norizan Sharif said the council could comprise representatives from the mass media, Malaysian Press Institute, non governmental organisations (NGOs) and organisations representing media practitioners.

Political parties, institutions of higher learning, ministries and government departments could also be represented in the council as well as community leaders, he said in a statement issued here today.

He said the Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister could head the council which should be accorded the same status as the National Economic Action Council (NEAC) to enable it to play its role effectively.

This was necessary in line with the media's role in the nation-building process, he said.

The council, he said, could formulate a national agenda for the mass media as well as acting as a monitoring body on the conduct of the mass media.

Norizan said the MBM felt that there was a need to set up such a council in view of the recent developments involving the mass media.

He cited as examples the unsubstantiated announcement on the death of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong by a private radio station, lewd dialogue between a duty announcer and a listener on another private radio station and a newspaper report of an alleged assassination plot against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

-- BERNAMA

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