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Zam-Media

NOT WRONG OF MEDIA TO CARRY VIEWS ON HUDUD, SAYS ZAINUDDIN

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 5 (Bernama) -- The media of various languages have the right to express views and reactions on the implementation of the hudud law in Terengganu and Kelantan, Information Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Datuk Zainuddin Maidin said today.

Zainuddin said the media should not be faulted for highlighting the implementation of hudud law in Terengganu because the issue arose out of the fears of the various communities.

The issue became hot not because the media played it up but because of PAS' stand which had caused a lot of confusion and misunderstanding among non-Muslims, he said.

"PAS cannot blame the media in this matter as this hudud issue became hot because of the party's hastiness and arrogance in implementing the law without referring it to authorities who know better.

"All reactions carried by the media were spontaneous and reasonable, representing the voices of people who were worried and confused about the implementation of the hudud law," he said at the ministry's monthly gathering at Angkasapuri here.

Zainuddin said the government had never rejected or disputed hudud law as it was God's law but the implementation of hudud a la PAS contained many contradictions because it was done hastily.

"Section 9 of the Bill is said to be cruel to and victimise Muslim women in the country," he said.

He said this was among the matters disputed by the public and there was fear among the non-Muslim community because the law would also be enforced on them.

Meanwhile, Zainuddin asked Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) to be prepared to implement Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's suggestion to telecast live to the whole world the Le Tour de Langkawi (LTdL).

This move would promote Malaysia among an estimated worldwide television audience of 600 million and place RTM on par with international broadcasting stations, especially in terms of technical capabilities, he said.

-- BERNAMA
SOP MFJ YBY