

Govt won't recognise PAS laws: Mahathir

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BANGI: The federal government does not recognise the "Islamic" laws gazetted by PAS in Kelantan and Terengganu as hudud.

"They are not hudud but PAS laws," said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"They can do whatever they want but if it against the Federal Constitution, we will take legal action," he said.

The Terengganu government yesterday gazetted the Syariah Criminal Law Enactment (Hudud and Qisas) which was passed by the Terengganu state assembly on July 8 last year.

Mahathir spoke at a press briefing in Uniten after receiving a 5.5km-long banner autographed by 52,000 Malaysians thanking Mahathir for his leadership and services that led Malaysia to becoming a prosperous and progressive nation.

On Umno Puteri, Mahathir said: "Initially, I was worried about the ability of this wing to

function effectively but I am glad that my worry is proven unfounded.

"There is also a lot of room for women to contribute to nation building. I am quite sure they will be given the opportunities in Umno.

"Umno is also the first party to appoint a woman MP as a minister. We are way ahead of others.

"I also have full confidence in my successor (Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi) to take on the issues as effectively as I had ... though the style may be different."

Earlier, Mahathir was received by 3,000 Puteri Umno members led by its head, Datuk Azalina Othman Said.

It had taken the Puteri wing four months to assemble the autographed cloth banner which was strung around the Uniten field and its entrance.

"I am pleased that Puteri has proven its organising and leadership skills. I hope its members will continue to be patient and continue to learn and gain experience."