

Wee: Dr M's Islamic state left charter untouched
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By Nigel Aw

MCA Youth Chief Wee Ka Siong today clarified that the party did not raise any objection to former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad's Islamic state declaration in 2001 as that did not embrace constitutional amendments.

mca youth agm 011011 wee ka siong This, he said, was in contrast to PAS' agenda of implementing hudud law which would ultimately require amendments to the Federal Constitution.

"There is a significant difference between the announcement made by Mahathir on Sept 29 ten years ago during the annual Gerakan annual assembly.

"That announcement did not include amendment of the federal constitution," Wee (right) told reporters at the end of the 47th MCA Youth annual general assembly.

He added that the constitution is a "bible" for a multi-ethnic Malaysia and will not budge in its opposition to amending it for hudud law.

Wee also took arch rival DAP to task for its apparent muted stance where its coalition partner PAS' hudud law ambitions are concerned.

Extensive debate gauntlet thrown

He said MCA Youth was willing to debate the issue with the DAP from the national to divisional levels.

"We must discuss the contentious issue whether hudud law should be implemented...When it is necessary, they (Kelantan government) say this is a Pakatan Rakyat government but when there is conflict, they say it is a PAS government, so which is which?"

Wee said to date, party vice-president Gan Ping Sieu had challenged DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng to a debate on the matter.

Meanwhile, Wee also condemned PAS over the issuance of a show-cause letter against SK Kai Chih for hosting a lantern festival in Pasir Puteh, Kelantan.

"People just want to gaze at the moon and stars, sing and witness some performers dressed up as Chang Er (moon goddess)," he said.

"If Chang Er was around, I'm sure she will head to the streets to protest (the letter)."

The Pasir Puteh Land Office was reported to have written the letter to the school for failing to obtain an entertainment licence for hosting the event on Sept 15.

According to Wee, the land office had claimed that the school contravened Section 6 (2) of the Entertainment and Places of Entertainment Enactment 1998, which carries a maximum fine of RM20,000 or a five-year jail term, or both.

"Such licences are normally for nightclubs like karaoke lounges and pubs. I don't understand why a mooncake festival would require such licences.

"Does this means that all parties are like night clubs?" he asked.

Earlier in his closing address, Wee announced that MCA Youth has formed a legal team to challenge the land office letter, stressing that the lantern festival was part of Chinese culture.

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