

Table paper on online hate advocates, PM urged
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DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang today urged Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak to table a white paper in Parliament to reveal actions the government has taken to tackle those who misused social media platforms to ramp up racial and religious tensions.

Lim said Pakatan Rakyat MPs would seek an explanation from the government on the action taken by the Attorney-General's Chambers to charge those who offered money for Seputeh MP Teresa Kok to be slapped.

They also want the government to explain its action on a blogger who spread a picture saying the apostasy of Muslims was being carried out in a church, despite the picture being taken at a 2012 event organised by the International Institute on Islamic Thought and Civilisation (Istac).

"Parliament expects prompt and speedy action by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and the police against cyberliars.

"These cyberlairs have been allowed, for too long, to perpetrate their irresponsible, dangerous and treacherous activities on the social media to incessantly incite racial and religious animosities," Lim said in a statement today.

Lim also called for the establishment of a "high-powered" squad comprising the police, politicians from both sides and the MCMC to "clean up" the social media of elements that can stir racial and religious tension.

"When will the authorities stop the merchants and vendors of hate speech, especially on the social media, from their dastardly deeds of incessant incitement of racial and religious animosities, ill-will and hatred to pit race against race and religion against religion?" he asked.

Nevertheless, Lim praised the authorities, such as the MCMC and the police, for taking the initiative to investigate two men who made the offer of RM 1,200 to anyone who slapped Kok and the blogger who circulated the "apostasy" picture.