

Jais should've checked first, says PAS man
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The Selangor Islamic Affairs Department (Jais) should have made checks first before taking any action on a bride during a Hindu wedding last Sunday, a PAS central committee member said.

Dzulkefly Ahmad (below) said that Jais should have done thorough checks before the raid as it could cause inter-religious strain.

"It is only reasonable for Jais to take action after getting complete and verified information. We know such raids on wedding can cause religious strife.

"So it important that such information is accurate and has been vetted carefully," he said when contacted.

This is in contrast to PAS colleague Ridhuan Mohd Nor, who backed Jais and warned other Muslims of being "trapped" by love and marriage to renounce their religions.

In a press conference earlier, Dzulkefly said that other quarters including Persatuan Hindraf Malaysia (PHM) have a right to air their views on the case.

"Hindraf has a right to say anything, but what is important is for all to give their views.

"All (quarters) must bear the responsibility to ensure peace and harmony, especially for Muslims," he said.

Jais: Not a raid

PHM chairperson P Waythammorthy in this statement yesterday said that Jais action at a temple in Petaling Jaya is unconstitutional.

Waythamoorthy (left) said that the raid disrupted the peace at the wedding and infringed on the bride's freedom of religion as enshrined in Article 11 of the Constitution.

According to Sinar Harian, Jais had detained the bride, 32, during the wedding which followed Hindu rites.

The woman was raised a Hindu but her father, who later abandoned the family, had registered her as Muslim.

Jais is reportedly investigating the case under Section 4 of the Non-Muslim Religions

Enactment (Control of Propagation Among Muslims) 1988.

The Islamic department today, however, stressed that it did not conduct a raid but was merely doing checks on the wedding.

The Malaysian Insider reported that Jais officers are now taking the bride's statement to determine her religion.

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