

**Perkasa joins in slamming Ku Nan over the homeless**  
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Perkasa has joined in the mounting criticism of Federal Territories Minister Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor on his plan to restrict the giving of alms and food to the homeless within a two-kilometre radius of the Kuala Lumpur city centre.

Irwan Fahmi Deris (right), who leads the Malay right wing movement's youth wing, Wira Perkasa, described Tengku Adnan's move as "stupid and senseless".

"In the time of Ramadan, when many people would give alms, the minister has issued a statement that is stupid and senseless.

"What is the relevance? To display his ignorance? This is not a matter of popularity, this (giving of alms) is part of worship that is demanded in Islam," Irwan said in a statement yesterday.

On Tuesday, Tengku Adnan, who is widely referred to as Ku Nan, declared a crackdown on begging in the city centre and warned that those who give and receive alms will be fined.

He also prohibited soup kitchens from operating within the two-kilometre radius of the city centre.

Tengku Adnan (left), who is also Umno secretary-general said the crackdown would be carried out in certain areas of the city centre to curb begging, which he said smeared the image of Kuala Lumpur.

Irwan said the move appeared to be an attempt by the authorities to cover up their own weaknesses, since volunteers have had to step in to help the poor.

"The minister should be more intelligent in differentiating between the poor and beggars, even though the minister is born to an aristocrat family," he said, adding that Tengku Adnan would be better off cleaning up vices in the city.

Following an avalanche of criticism, Tengku Adnan said yesterday he was prepared to listen to feedback and would be meeting up with the soup kitchens affected by the new ruling.

