

Federal govt wants Jakim's role to be expanded – PM

Malaysiakini

12 June 2023

Bernama

The federal government wants to expand the role of the Malaysian Islamic Development Department (Jakim) to enhance the country's dignity and status.

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said he had met with Jakim's leadership recently and wanted them to help draft a national development policy framework based on Malaysia Madani.

"Previously, Jakim's work was to preach, provide training and organise Quran recitation and memorisation competitions with the respective state governments, but Jakim played less of a role in drafting the 12th Malaysia Plan and Madani Budget.

"I have instructed that the role of the muftis, scholars or figures in Jakim should be in line with this development so that their input can be beneficial and can raise the dignity and status of the country," he said.

The prime minister said this in a speech at the 1444H/2023 National Recitation

and Quran Memorisation Competition in Butterworth last night.

Penang is hosting the national-level competition this year, which is scheduled to take place over six days until June 16.

Meanwhile, Anwar invited Muslims to take advantage of the miracles of the Quran by discussing sustainability and the value system it advocates.

He added that certain individuals had objected to the government's initiatives, including the Madani Budget, by making inaccurate references to verses in the Quran.

He said the act of misusing the Quran to make arguments would damage the sanctity of the holy book that scholars have defended for over a thousand years.

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Source: <https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/668325>