

Those who cross the line will be punished

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THE government will use the Internal Security Act (ISA) and the Sedition Act against anyone, including politicians, who cross the line on issues affecting national unity.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz said the government would not hesitate to act against those who breached the spirit of the Federal Constitution.

He said anyone found to have made seditious speeches could be charged under the Sedition Act while the ISA could be used against those who acted against the Constitution.

"There are some people who have gone beyond the limits of the law.

"I guarantee that they will feel the full brunt of the law, and this includes politicians. This is in line with our efforts to maintain national unity and harmony in the country," he told Senator Tay Puay Chuan yesterday.

Earlier, he told Senator Gooli Hoe Hin that the Constitution had been drawn up after input from the three largest communities in the country.

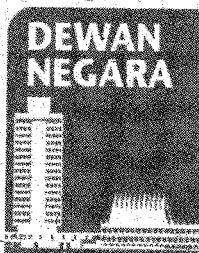
Nazri said the Constitution took into account the needs of all races.

"The Constitution remains the guiding tool for the government, and whatever policies drawn up are based on the spirit of unity."

He said the government had no plans to set up a constitutional court as the situation did not warrant it.

He told Senator Datuk Yaakob Mohammad that Malaysia practised integration, and not assimilation, of racial groups to achieve unity.

"Although there have been some hiccups, the government will not reverse this policy," Nazri added.



■ Reports by Eileen Ng