

THE SUN

DATE: 14/1/2010

# Wait for appeal decision first, says Muhyiddin

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PUTRAJAYA: The government will wait for the judgment of its appeal by the High Court on Friday before deciding on the next course of action on the issue regarding the usage of the word Allah by the Catholic weekly newspaper *Herald*.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri

Muhyiddin Yassin said yesterday he would not pre-empt what would be the outcome of the appeal made by the Home Ministry against the Kuala Lumpur High Court judgment

"We will wait for whatever the court's judgment would be based on the appeal that has been submitted. So, I would not want to pre-empt or pre-judge what would be the outcome of that," he said after launching

the MyID initiative here.

"But, obviously, like what the prime minister has said, there could be an approach that would be a long-term resolution to that sort of issues."

He was asked about the government's stand on the matter and whether there is a need for it to continue with its appeal.

On Sunday, DAP leader Lim Kit

Siang commented in his blog the home minister should withdraw the appeal to demonstrate the government's seriousness and commitment to resolve the issue through inter-religious dialogue.

Lim said this in reference to a report quoting Muhyiddin as saying the time was right to set up an inter-faith council to reach mutual understanding on religious matters.

Muhyiddin said the government was not looking purely from the legalistic approach but also possibly through the process of engagement, dialogues and intra-religious meetings and discussions.

"This is to create a better understanding of how we can work together. While we are different in terms of religious beliefs, we are 1 Malaysia, that should be the basis of how we should look forward," he said.

"But this case is already pending in court, so just wait for the court's

decision."

On a suggestion to set up a Political Party Act, Muhyiddin said it was too early to give his comment as the matter was still being discussed by the parties concerned.

"We have not gone into details. This was one of the propositions by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC). We'll have to see how MACC is going to put forward this proposed law."

On the MyID initiative, Muhyiddin said it was implemented based on the concept of "One Number for All Matters", which uses the MyKad number as the sole reference when dealing with government agencies.

He said some of the benefits of the initiative, announced during the tabling of Budget 2010, are shorter waiting time, reduced congestion, having fewer documents and doing away with the need to remember a lot of reference numbers.