

Review on outdated laws

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PM: Improvements needed in line with digital advancements

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PETALING JAYA: The legal affairs division in the Prime Minister's Department will review existing laws, including 147 outdated ones, says Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

The Prime Minister said improvements to the laws are needed to stay relevant in line with the latest situation and technological advancements.

These improvements, he added, will also ensure the wellbeing of Keluarga Malaysia.

"Digital technology is rapidly evolving. In this context, existing laws could be irrelevant, or somewhat backward.

"The Common Gaming Houses Act, for example, only covers the enforcement of gambling activities in physical premises and not online," he said during University Malaya's Faculty of Law golden jubilee celebration here yesterday.

Ismail Sabri said the government had taken proactive measures in strengthening the laws in Malaysia.

This, he said, included reforms to the mandatory death penalty.

"Many are confused about the recently announced abolition of the mandatory death penalty, as if the death penalty has been abolished.

"The government did not abolish



Order, please:

Ismail Sabri launching the golden jubilee celebration in UM. Joining him are (from left) Chief Justice Tun Tengku Maimun Tuan Mat, UM board chairman Tan Sri Zarinah Anwar, PARFUM president Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil and VC of UM Assoc Prof Datuk Dr Johan Samsuddin. — LOW BOON TAT/The Star

the death penalty, but relies on the discretion of the judge to determine whether the offender is sentenced to death or given alternative sentences.

"This objective should be the basis and policy for the government and policymakers in matters relating to the punishment of a crime to seek commensurate and effective punishment," he said.

Ismail Sabri also said that preparation of the Anti-party Hopping Bill by the select committee is in the final stages, and it is expected to be

tabled in Parliament next month.

Ismail Sabri said party hopping has hampered the process of constitutional democracy in Malaysia, especially after the 14th General Election.

"The Bill is essential to guarantee political stability and integrity after GE15," he said.

He added that efforts to strengthen political integrity include the regulation of political contribution funds.

Ismail Sabri gave the assurance that the independence of the judi-

ary and legislature will continue to be preserved.

"As someone with a legal background, I respect the doctrine of separation of powers between the executive, legislature and judiciary.

"I do not want any repeat of the conflict between the executive and the judiciary that happened before."

Watch the video
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