

**Abolition Of ISA, A Journey Of Country's Transformation - Hishammuddin  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 16 (Bernama) -- Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein regarded the abolition of the Internal Security Act (ISA) 1960, which was announced by the Prime Minister yesterday, as a journey of the country's transformation.

He said efforts to modify existing laws was necessary to keep abreast with changing times and to safeguard the people's interest and national security.

"Not just ISA. We are looking at the Emergency Ordinance as well. It is a question of doing what you have started two years ago, which is actually to go on the journey of transformation, and it was only yesterday that the Prime Minister indicated to the public what we have been doing and preparing since his first speech," he told reporters after the double National and Merdeka Day celebration at Dataran Merdeka here Friday.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, in his Malaysia Day 2011 message, announced the abolition of the ISA and three emergency proclamations for Malaysia to be more open and its democracy, more dynamic.

Hishammuddin said there were many things which had to be done together by various quarters to formulate new laws to replace the ISA. Meanwhile, Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal said the government's decision in abolishing the ISA was not due to pressure from any parties, but to protect the people against acts of violence and terrorism.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom said the decision to abolish the ISA proved that the ISA was not a weapon used by Barisan Nasional (BBN), as claimed by the opposition.

Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir regarded the abolition of the ISA as a meaningful gift in conjunction with Malaysia Day and the prime minister's belief that the country would no longer be exposed to acts of violence and terrorism. violent crimes.

In a related development, Umno Information chief Datuk Ahmad Maslan said the abolition of the ISA would put an end to all accusations by the opposition parties that the law was used by the government to victimise the people.

It proved the courage by the government in defending defending the people's freedom to expression and speech and its confidence in the existing judicial system, he said in a statement issued here.

Ahmad said the abolition did not mean that the ISA no longer existed because a new law, which would be better and more acceptable to the people, would be formulated to replace it.

What would be abolished is the negative perception that the government is cruel, he added.

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