

Parliament: Rais Refutes Claims National Day Celebrations Dull
Bernama
October 3, 2011

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 3 (Bernama) -- Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim has refuted claims by the opposition that the simultaneous National Day and Malaysia Day celebrations on Sept 16 were dull.

He said the double celebrations received tremendous response from the people and further instilled the spirit of patriotism and brotherhood among them.

Replying to Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang (PAS-Marang) during question time at the Dewan Rakyat today, Rais said the claims could be due to the opposition parties' lackadaisical attitude towards the celebrations.

"I suggest that you look back at the matter from the doors of your heart and see whether the comment is right," he said.

He added that the auspicious day was celebrated in a highly spirited manner in states except Kelantan, and to a certain extent Selangor and Penang.

There were 218 programmes held in conjunction with the celebrations, involving 10,000 participants in Kuala Lumpur and thousands of others at the state level, he said.

"As the chairman of the organising committee for the National Day and Malaysia Day celebrations, I can attest to the fact that the celebrations were successful and far from dull," he said.

Meanwhile, replying to a supplementary question from Datuk Bung Moktar Radin (BN-Kinabatangan), Rais said the government was prepared to meet with historians in the bid to verify historical accounts and make corrections where necessary.

To a question from Datuk Idris Haron (BN-Tangga Batu), Rais said there were currently 28.4 million mobile pre-paid subscribers nationwide.

To another question by Idris regarding the mobile pre-paid service tax, Rais said the Finance Ministry was looking into the best method to resolve the issue.

Rais also urged consumers to provide feedback on the existing mobile prepaid charges and indicate the rate acceptable to them.

---BERNAMA

Copyright © 2011 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/newsindex.php?id=617297>