

DAP takes dig at BN parties over hudud
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By Shannon Teoh

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 23 — The DAP said today that Barisan Nasional's (BN) unity should also be questioned following disagreement among component parties in the ruling coalition over the implementation of hudud law.

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng told reporters that since the issue of hudud has been played up to create cracks within Pakatan Rakyat (PR), BN too should be asked the same question.

Lim said the hudud issue had been played up to create cracks within Pakatan Rakyat. — File pic

"MCA doesn't agree to hudud. Umno agrees. So will BN split? Why is this not asked of BN?" the Penang chief minister said.

MCA president Datuk Seri Chua Soi Lek said this morning that it will leave the ruling coalition if hudud law is implemented by Umno.

"MCA's stand is very clear. We will object strongly to hudud. If Umno wants to implement hudud, we will pull MCA out of Barisan Nasional — simple as that," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin had said yesterday that Umno supported the law but Malaysia was not ready for it.

When PAS-ruled Kelantan passed the hudud Bill in 1993, it was supported by both Umno assemblymen and all six elected representatives from Semangat 46, which was led by Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who has since returned to Umno.

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who opposed hudud when Kelantan passed the law, reignited the issue earlier this week, daring the state's Mentri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat to implement hudud now that he was no longer in power.

The PAS spiritual leader then called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak to propose amendments to the federal constitution to allow the Islamic law which prescribes stoning, whipping and amputation as punishment for criminal offences.

Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim also backed PAS's stand on introducing hudud in Kelantan but the DAP has insisted that it is not part of their common policy.

"As long as it is not in the common manifesto, then it is not the collective stand of all three parties," Lim said today.

DAP publicity chief Tony Pua also told The Malaysian Insider that hudud could not be part of PR policy as all three parties must unanimously agree for it to become a joint policy "and DAP does not agree."

"Every party can have their own wish list but as long as it is not in our common policy

framework, it will not be policy when we take over government," the Petaling Jaya Utara MP said.

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