

Match stakes on hudud, MCA tells DAP
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 23 — DAP must pull out from Pakatan Rakyat (PR) over PAS's insistence to enact hudud laws in Kelantan or risk becoming an opposition "yes-man", Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha has said.

The MCA secretary-general pointed out that aside from staunchly anti-hudud DAP chairman Karpal Singh, other party heavyweights like parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang and secretary-general Lim Guan Eng have kept mum on the controversial Islamic laws.

"Today, PAS has taken a step-by-step approach to turn Malaysia into a theocratic Islamic state," he said in a statement today.

"The famed Buku Jingga of Pakatan Rakyat does not mention anything to ensure that hudud laws will not permeate, which indicates that Lim Guan Eng has been voiceless on this issue."

Kong added that MCA's stance on hudud was clear, and that the Barisan Nasional (BN) component party would not hesitate to withdraw from the ruling coalition if Umno introduced such laws.

Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday backed hudud law in principle and gave his assurance that non-Muslims' rights would not be affected if the legal system were put in place.

However, he explained that this was his personal view and that PR had not discussed the issue.

Deputy Prime Minister and Umno deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin has also said that Muslims have to accept the laws as it was part and parcel of Islam, but stressed that multi-racial Malaysia was not ready for hudud.

He said hudud was not an issue in BN, and attributed MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek's threat today to take his party out of the ruling coalition to the latter's misunderstanding of Umno's "clear position" on the implementation of hudud.

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