

ISA gone but other laws remain, says Muhyiddin
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 18 — Malaysians must still abide by the law and may not do as they please even after the Internal Security Act (ISA) has been scrapped, the deputy prime minister said today.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said no one is above the law and cautioned all parties, including the opposition, not to engage in activities that could threaten national security.

"If any party does something which goes against the country's laws and can affect the peace and security of the people, there are laws that can be referred to so that lawful action may be taken (against them)," he (picture) told reporters after opening the Makkal Sakti Convention at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

On Thursday night, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak announced the repeal of the ISA and the three Emergency Declarations when both the Dewan Negara and Dewan Rakyat have their next sitting.

He said new laws would be enacted in their place to protect the peace, harmony and security of the country.

He also announced that the government will do away with annual printing and publishing permits with permits that can be cancelled if regulations are flouted.

Pakatan Rakyat (PR) has claimed credit for the bold move, which it said was the result of sustained opposition pressure.

But Najib countered yesterday that no one else should take credit for the sweeping law reforms championed by Barisan Nasional (BN).

In an apparent reference to PR claims that BN had lifted the idea from the opposition's Buku Jingga manifesto, he said the decision to scrap the ISA was an extension of his promise to amend the controversial law when he took office in 2009.

"These are not the fruits of their struggle. This was a decision made by the Barisan Nasional government because we listened to Malaysians who want this change," he had told supporters at Universiti Teknologi Mara in Shah Alam yesterday.

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