

**Rules On Election Manifesto Over RTM After Dissolution Of Parliament - Rais
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 7 (Bernama) -- The regulations and conditions which political parties have to adhere to should they desire to air their general election manifesto over Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) will be issued after the dissolution of parliament, Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim said today.

He said every party should abide by the regulations and conditions to understand the practices founded on noble values applicable in the world of radio and television broadcasting.

"All parties which wish to air their manifesto will have to be bound by some principles of regulation and what is said to be social ties applied by authorities such as RTM and other radio and TV stations.

"Details will be announced when the time comes after getting the go-ahead from authorities such as the Election Commission (EC).

"It also depends on when the Dewan Rakyat is dissolved. When that happens, we will make this service available to all entitled to it," he told reporters after launching a book on 1Malaysia practices of noble values published by the Special Affairs Department (Jasa), here.

Yesterday, Rais said the Cabinet had approved a paper on the request for equal access to the media for all political parties which wanted to air their general election manifesto.

He also said that the news content would be monitored to prevent anyone from claiming that the government broadcasting station had been unfair.

"RTM is a government broadcasting station. As such, the government, which has the authority to make available this facility, has some level of interest and specifications which should be respected," he said.

Rais also said that the time had come to increase the number of programmes inclined towards the assimilation of positive values and maintenance of racial harmony.

He suggested that Jasa publish pocket-size booklets on noble values.

Earlier, Jasa director-general Datuk Fuad Hassan said the book launched today was aimed at coaxing society to maintain national harmony and stability founded on the diversity of race, religion and culture.

The book uses a pictorial technique which enables the people, particularly students, to better understand the noble value practices.

Rais also presented 11 awards for display of noble values. A recipient was Al-Hijrah TV cameraman Mohd Azri Mohd Salleh who was injured while shielding a policeman from attackers during a rally which turned violent on April 28 in Kuala Lumpur.

Another of the recipients was the late Noramfaizul Mohd Nor, the BernamaTV cameraman

who was killed in a shooting in Somalia during a humanitarian mission there last year.

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