

**Mainstream Media Must Preserve Credibility - Ali Hamsa
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PETALING JAYA, Nov 9 (Bernama) -- Mainstream media in the country must preserve their credibility to become reliable sources of news at all times, Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Dr Ali Hamsa.

He said the saying 'the pen is mightier than the sword' clearly showed that the media were very influential in people's daily lives.

Hence, he said the media should report the truth based on the principles of neutrality and not be influenced by the sentiments of other parties.

"This is important given that the explosion of new media, news portals and others, have given rise to embellished news, slander and accusations," he said at a gathering with media practitioners here Thursday night.

Ali also said that ties between the government and the media had allowed the former to share knowledge and expertise with the private sector and vice versa.

Meanwhile, he said that the government was serious in efforts to woo more non-Malays to join the civil service.

He said this was evident by data showing that the number of applications among non-Bumiputeras to join the civil service had risen by 5.6 per cent between June-August over two per cent recorded between January-May.

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