

PAS Youth wants special Parliamentary sitting on TPPA
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PAS Youth chief Nik Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz says Malaysia needs to be wary of political games by superpowers and the issues raised cannot be evaluated on paper alone. -- TRP file pic

KUALA LUMPUR, PAS Youth has called for a special Parliamentary session to be held to discuss the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA)'s key aspects of the major trade pact which involved critical issues.

The wing's chief Nik Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz said the discussion should not be held in the next parliamentary sitting as not enough time would be allocated to debate the matter more thoroughly.

He added the tabling of the Budget 2016 was also scheduled for the next parliamentary session.

"The outcome of the (current phase) of negotiations from the 12 countries yesterday brings it a step closer to a full agreement with Japan and the United States almost certainly signing a trade agreement that is perhaps the largest of this era.

"Now, the contents of the negotiations will be debated in each member country before the decision is confirmed in black and white.

"This issue has often been raised by leaders of Opposition parties who viewed that the needs of the people should take precedence over everything else, which is why a discussion is needed," he said in a statement today.

Nik Abduh said each member state had important considerations to make and has fundamental points of acceptance and rejection of the TPPA.

He said Malaysia also had its own stance on some of the points raised during the negotiations.

"Various criticisms and demands have been presented to the government to examine some matters involving sovereignty of the state as well as the implications for the protection of the domestic market and issues relating to intellectual property rights,

"Malaysia also needs to be wary of political games by superpowers and the issues raised cannot be evaluated on paper alone, but also needs to be assessed in the larger geopolitical scope.

"PAS Youth is convinced that a comprehensive and mature discussion will produce good results for the people and institutions in order to build a better legacy for the future," said the Pasir Mas MP.

Yesterday, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said that Malaysia had concluded negotiations held in the United States on the TPPA, but would only sign it after a collective decision.

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