

Parents Of Arrested Teenager Who Tried To Join IS Not Ready For Counselling Yet
Bernama
Mar 2, 2015

PUTRAJAYA, March 2 (Bernama) -- The parents of the 14-year-old female student who was arrested recently for trying to join the Islamic State (IS) militant group in Syria, are not prepared to receive counselling yet.

Women, Family and Community Development Minister, Datuk Seri Rohani Abdul Karim said officers from the Social Welfare Department (JKM) had met the student's parents but they declined to undergo counselling as they regarded the matter as personal.

"We want to help them (the parents) overcome the trauma. We won't force them and we will respect their wish.

"Anyway, this case is still under police investigation. We will wait. When the parents are prepared to receive counselling, the ministry's doors are always open and we are here to help."

Rohani said this after receiving a contribution of RM150,000 from Colgate-Palmolive Malaysia, raised through an annual charity campaign, for 15 welfare homes under JKM's supervision.

On Feb 17, the 14-year-old from Muar, Johor and a student at a tahfiz school in Shah Alam, was arrested at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport while trying to leave for Syria via Egypt to join the IS group.

Citing family members of passengers of Flight MH370, Rohani said they were initially angry and rejected the JKM representatives but after a few months, they called the ministry to enquire about obtaining counselling.

"Perhaps the student's parents are afraid to speak to the counsellor for fear that the matters discussed during the counselling session could be used against them as the case is still being investigated by police," she said.

Rohani advised parents to always monitor their children's development and movements to avoid them from being influenced by undesirable elements which could destroy their future.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1113228>