

**POTA To Be Used To Curb Terrorism, No Replacement For ISA - Zahid
Bernama
Mar 10, 2015**

PUTRAJAYA, March 10 (Bernama) -- The Prevention Of Terrorism Act (POTA) will only be used to curb terrorism and not a replacement for the Internal Security Act (ISA).

Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the Opposition and non-governmental organisations (NGO) fighting for human rights need not worry as the government will not misuse it.

"Only acts of terrorism come under the Act. Conflicting political views are not covered by this law.

"There is nothing to worry. Like the Prevention of Crime Act (POCA) (Amendment and Extension) Act 2013, the home minister has no executive power," he told reporters after receiving a courtesy call by the Brunei High Commissioner to Malaysia, Datuk Paduka Alaihuddin Mohd Taha at his office, here today.

Zahid was responding to concerns raised by the Opposition that POTA could be misused for the benefit of certain parties.

POTA, enacted specifically to address terrorism by militant groups such as the IS, will be tabled in the current sitting of parliament.

On the arrest of PKR Youth chief Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad at #KitaLawan rally in Kuala Lumpur on March 7, he said all parties should respect rules under the Peaceful Assembly Act.

"The police had to act after the rally organisers refused to abide by rules, including applying for a permit at least 10 days before the rally.

"I often emphasise the democratic system can be channeled via the stage, parliament or the social media but not by abusing the law.

"I hope they can understand. This is unless they want the international media to say that Malaysia is not undemocratic, unsafe and so on," he added.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1115743>