

DPM Orders IGP To Take Action Against Individuals Who Insult The Religion
Bernama
Nov 17, 2015

PUTRAJAYA, Nov 17 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi today instructed the Inspector-General of Police, Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar to take action against individuals who insult the religion, even though they are abroad.

Ahmad Zahid, who is also the Home Minister, said freedom of speech or a world without borders cannot be used as the basis of innovation, to the extent of tearing up pages of the Quran and using them as toilet paper.

"This is a total insult and very unbecoming, supposedly being innovative and practising freedom of expression to convey one's true feelings, which had been wrongly translated.

"And because of this evil act, I have asked the Inspector-General of Police, to use his authority to take some form of action against such ill-mannered people, even if they are overseas," he said when officiating the ministry-level Innovation Day here, today.

Also present were the Home Ministry's secretary-general Datuk Seri Alwi Ibrahim, the two deputy ministers, Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed and Masir Kujat, and Khalid.

Ahmad Zahid said difference in opinion was not an obstacle but there should be ethical balance as each race has feelings and would not be able to accept it if their religion, culture and language were being insulted.

"In this respect, I hope people do not use innovation as a breakthrough to a new level by indulging in rude and inappropriate behaviour, going beyond limits and making degrading insults," he said.

Meanwhile, Khalid when met said, police would take action against the individual concerned according to the law, as directed by the deputy prime minister.

"We will take action," he said, adding that the individual concerned should not be given publicity in the media as that was his actual intention.

Earlier, several police reports were lodged following provocations by controversial blogger Alvin Tan when he took several pages from the Quran and used them as toilet paper.

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