

'Set up independent Law Reform Commission to review archaic laws'

By Adib Povera - June 20, 2022 @ 4:46pm



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KUALA LUMPUR: The government has been urged to set up an independent body in the form of a Law Reform Commission to study and review 147 legislations deemed [archaic](#).

Special advisor to the Prime Minister (Laws and Human Rights) Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said said it was important for the commission to remain as an independent body and not placed under the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC).

The Pengerang member of Parliament proposed for the commission to be led by pre-eminent members of the judiciary, Bar Council and academicians.

"The commission will not only complement the work of the AGC but will also increase the efficiency of law-making processes.

"Retired judges, academicians and politicians have years of accumulated experience that we can draw upon, let us not waste great talents and minds," she said in a statement today.

Presently, said Azalina, there was already a law governing the Commissioner of Law Revision and Law Reform under the AGC according to the Revision of Laws Act 1968 [Act 1].

"Just amend [Act 1] to upgrade the Commissioner to a full Commission to be a statutory independent body to keep the laws of Malaysia under review and to recommend reform where it is needed without being under the Executive control," she said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob on Friday announced that he had instructed the Legal Affairs Division under the Prime Minister's Department to review several pieces of legislations including 147 "archaic" laws, in order for a decision to be made on whether these laws should be amended or repealed.

This, he said, was among the transformations being undertaken by the government to strengthen the legal system in the country.