

## **Govt reviewing Section 15 of Auku to allow students to be openly engaged in politics**

By Teh Athira Yusof, Qistina Sallehuddin - March 13, 2023 @ 11:40am

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is reviewing Section 15 of the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 (Auku) to allow students to be openly engaged in politics.

Deputy Minister of Higher Education Datuk Mohammad Yusof Apdal (Warisan-Lahad Datu) said the review towards the Act would also allow direct autonomy powers on educational reform to higher learning institutions (IPT) students.

"We have completed several reviews, which took seven rounds of improvements towards Auku for IPT students.

"The review will also allow the students to be openly engaged in politics, where they can be a political party member and a candidate for a certain party.

"The improvements will also allow students to be given full responsibility in relation to student movements in IPTs," he said during the question and answer session in Dewan Rakyat, today.

He said this in response to a question from Datuk Seri Saifuddin Abdullah (Perikatan Nasional-Indera Mahkora) on measures implemented to ensure IPTs educational reform is being carried out in the country.

Yusof added that the government was also establishing a special task force responsible for reviewing and conducting in-depth research on the existing IPT policies.

"The task force aims to provide suggestions and views on the existing policies, including its weakness, strength and how it is lacking.

"Policies that are no longer relevant will be dropped and policies that are considered weak will be improved and streamlined.

"The task force committee will involve prominent figures in the education industry who can contribute holistic ideas to improve the higher education quality and performance."

