

# Poco-poco dance ban restricted to Perak

**SEPANG:** The poco-poco dance ban in Perak will not be extended to the rest of the country.

The National Fatwa Council made the decision at its three-day *muzakarah* which ended here yesterday.

Council chairman Tan Sri Dr Abdul Shukor Husin said there would be no ban as long as Muslims

practised the dance as stipulated.

"The regulations are as issued by the council in 2007 reminding Muslims not to indulge in worshipping rituals of other religions, minding relations between men and women and wearing proper attire.

"If they can adhere to the regulations and if it can have a positive

impact on health, then we have no objection," he told reporters after chairing the meeting.

Dr Abdul Shukor added, however, the national council would respect the decision of the Perak Fatwa Council to ban the dance in the state as their research showed it had elements of Christianity and soul worshipping.

Perak Mufti Tan Sri Harussani Zakaria, who was present at the meeting, explained that the edict banning the poco-poco in Perak was issued after several Muslim associations in the state started questioning the dance and its rituals.

"That's why the research was conducted. In other states, there is

no request for the dance to be studied, and thus, there is no edict issued on the matter," he said.

Harussani had announced the ban early this year.

The *muzakarah* also discussed issues relating to vaccines given to *haj* pilgrims, unclaimed conventional insurance compensation and death *khairat* (benefits). — Bernama