

Indonesian Military To Participate in Thwarting Terrorist Acts in the Country



[AH10_081017_AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

Nasir Djamil, a member of a special committee of the Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR RI) has said that the government's proposal on TNI's [the Indonesian military] roles in the so-called thwarting terrorist acts, would be well arranged in the bill on counterterrorism.

Mentioning that DPR RI was in the process of revising the bill [a revision of the Law No. 15/2003 on Counterterrorism], he said that the idea would also enable both institutions, the Indonesian National Police [Polri] and TNI to co-operate," Nasir Djamil, who is also a politician from the [Islamic] Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), was quoted as saying by *"Republika Daily"* on Friday (6 October).

[On the present uprising Indonesian political situation, there seems to be a kind of disputes between Polri, the authorized institution to maintain domestic security, and TNI.]

According to him, TNI does not have to wait for the official demand of Polri to do something in order to prevent terrorism actions from taking place.

"In other words, TNI's tasks would be the same as those of Polri. Operationally speaking, however, their job descriptions would be spelled out in the very bill," he said, adding that such a co-operation would enable them to better and earlier prevent terrorism actions from taking place all over Indonesia.

Expecting that such a co-operation would be carried out professionally, he believed that there would not be any violations against the laws. Besides, any military actions should be based on the law.

"Having the Law on Counterterrorism would, indeed, avoid having legal problems in processing the alleged terrorists. The Indonesian KUHP [the Criminal Code] should not be used any more in dealing with terrorism actions," he explained, pointing out that the co-operation of the two institutions could more effectively prevent terrorists from conducting their actions especially when they really threaten the state security.

Rectifying the bill on counterterrorism would also clarify the worries of the research findings of Prof. Julie Hwang of Goucher College's Research Institution that the Indonesian new Law on counterterrorism would threaten the freedom, stability, and the Indonesian position as a state respecting human rights.

Source: Rol/Ram, eramuslim.com/berita/nasional/direvisi-uu-akan-libatkan-tni-dalam-penanganan-teroris.htm, "Direvisi, UU Akan Libatkan TNI Dalam Penanganan Teroris (Indonesian New Law on counterterrorism includes TNI's (the Indonesian military) roles in thwarting terrorist acts)", in Indonesian, 06 Oct 17.

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