Research Findings: 40per Cent of Government Mosques Radical

The vice-General Chairman of DMI or the Indonesian Mosque Council, Commissioner General Syafruddin, has expressed his irritating statements on the research findings conducted by one of Indonesian NGOs [non-governmental organizations], P3M or the Community and Pesantren Development Association.

According to the Chairman of the Monitoring Council of P3M, Agus Muhammad, the Association has conducted a survey on as many as 100 government’s mosques which were established within the governments’ institutions and departments in Jakarta, such as in the Ministerial offices (33), in State’s Institutions (28), and in BUMN’s or the State-owned enterprises’ offices (37). The survey was carried out every Friday services from 29 September 2017 up to 21 October 2017.

Analysing the materials of the sermons delivered, the findings say that 41 mosques have been indicated as radical.

In the meantime, Syafruddin insisted Tuesday (on 10 July) that there was no single mosque had ever been made use as a place to breed radicalism teachings. He wondered, questioning the validity and reliability of the methods, indicators, and standards used in the survey.

He demanded that such a survey be re-conducted since the previous one was against his belief that a mosque is a place to perform and say prayers, not as a place to spread up radicalism teachings.

Denying the findings of the survey, he warned that such findings should not be made wrong use. Otherwise, not only would it produce bad effects, but it would also make those doing so be condemned and punished by Allah.

It is interesting to find that the most important figure of P3M [which has conducted the survey] is cleric Masdar F Mas’udi who used to be the vice-General Chairman of DMI or the Indonesian Mosque Council (the 2003-2009 term).