

31 JUL 1996

Senate-Debate

DON'T APPOINT MUSLIMS TO BOARD OF GAMING COMPANIES

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- The government should formulate laws to prohibit Muslims from being appointed to the board of companies connected with gambling, the Dewan Negara was told today.

"Muslims are barred from the Genting Highlands casino but it is odd that a former Inspector-General of Police with the title of Tun is appointed as chairman of Resorts World which is linked to Genting," Senator Datuk Ibrahim Ali said when debating the Supplementary Supply (1996) 1996 Bill in the Dewan Negara.

Ibrahim criticised several Malay corporate figures whom he described as greedy in grabbing the opportunities created by the country's rapid economic growth.

The bill, which was tabled by Finance Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Dr Shafie Mohd Salleh, seeks an additional allocation of RM697,401,320 for several federal ministries.

Of this, the Public Enterprises Ministry is to get the biggest amount of RM493.133 million followed by the Health Ministry with RM119 million and the Prime Minister's Department with RM30 million.

In supporting the bill, Senator Rahim Baba said Mara should not compromise on education, especially with regard to sending Bumiputeras for further studies overseas.

"Mara should be prepared to spend plenty of money on education, and should not let Mara-sponsored students go around like begging for money although they had been promised places in the United States and the United Kingdom at the beginning," he said.

Senator Datin Hajah Wan Intan A. Tajuddin urged the Health Ministry to conduct courtesy courses for young doctors at government hospitals so that they can better deal with patients, especially the elderly.

In congratulating Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his 15th year in office as Prime Minister, Senator Yim Chee Chong hoped that he would consider increasing the allocation for Senators to RM100,000 per year from the present RM100,000 per term.

The Dewan will sit again tomorrow. -- BERNAMA

ZAB YBY