

05/09/1997

Delegates steer well clear of slander issue

HEEDING yesterday's call by Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to avoid slandering others, especially those linked to sex scandals, delegates to the Youth and Wanita assemblies stayed clear of the issue.

Though many touched on the subject during the debate, it was more to reaffirm Dr Mahathir's concern on the ills of slander.

The reference made was general in nature like the remarks by Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who called for the removal of members found involved in spreading rumours and slandering party leaders.

He also wanted their identities to be revealed.

He reminded the delegates that the party could be destroyed if those who slandered leaders were allowed to remain and multiply in number.

His deputy Datuk Hishamuddin Hussein who expressed his fear over the action of those who made slanderous allegations, warned them of the damage they could do to the party.

As a nation with a small population, he said the country could ill-afford any disunity caused by slandering of leaders.

Bagan Youth chief Norhaidi Che Dan urged the Home Ministry to investigate and arrest those responsible, regardless of their positions.

Wanita Umno chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said slandering someone was a despicable act.

(END)