

22/06/1998

`Don't raise issue again'

UMNO Wanita Chief Datuk Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said the issue of nepotism and cronyism should not be raised again after the party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's speech.

"As far as I am concerned, the matter is now a non-issue," she said when asked whether those responsible for bringing up the issue should apologise to Dr Mahathir.

Siti Zaharah was responding to the Prime Minister's adjournment speech where he dealt at length on the issue.

Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayob, when commenting on the fate of Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi after Dr Mahathir's speech, said: "You just read between the lines."

When pressed further by reporters to elaborate, Megat Junid said if Zahid was guilty of anything, he should then apologise to Dr Mahathir.

He added that whatever the outcome it was certainly not going to be the end of Zahid's political career.

Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar expressed hope that Dr Mahathir's speech would end the issue of nepotism and cronyism within the party.

Former vice-president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah also said Dr Mahathir's speech should settle the issue of nepotism and cronyism as he had given a clear explanation.

(END)