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Need to keep all members informed

A SELANGOR Umno representative has proposed that State-level party assemblies be held to keep grassroots members informed of the issues raised during the general assembly.

Seripah Noli Syed Hussein said it should be held shortly after the Umno general assembly annually.

"The State event will enable grassroots members to digest the presidential address and issues raised during the general assembly.

"It will also allow them to give views on issues relevant to them. This way, we will obtain honest views which could contribute to better programmes for the party," she said.

Debating on the presidential address, Seripah Noli said it was important to let members at all levels be informed as the president's speech and deliberations at the general assembly should form the basis for the party's activities.

She said Selangor Umno supported party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that outsiders must not interfere with Umno's domestic affairs.

Seripah Noli said Selangor Umno also proposed that the top two posts in the party not be contested to maintain party unity and political stability.

Federal Territory Umno representative Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor said he welcomed the Education Ministry's decision to organise matriculation courses.

But the ministry must ensure that the quality of education would be enhanced, he added.

Tengku Adnan said he was concerned with the recent confusion pertaining to intakes by universities as it could result in qualified Malay students failing to obtain places.

He also urged the Government to look into the establishment of Universiti Mara to let more Malay students complete their tertiary education.

On Malay reserve land in Kuala Lumpur, he said the land ownership should remain with the Malays even if development was deemed unavoidable.

He also said Malaysia should work its way out of the economic doldrums without any assistance from "outsiders" including the International Monetary Fund.

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