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Wanita Umno `supports Dr M's leadership'

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - Wanita Umno fully supports the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to resolve the nation's political and economic problems.

Its head Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said its members were well-briefed and well-informed on the current situation and could not be coerced by those with ulterior motives to go against the Government.

"Our members are not involved in the so-called political reformation movement which is linked to sacked Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim," she said.

Speaking at a Press conference following a four-hour meeting with Wanita Umno exco members today, Siti Zaharah said: "Wanita Umno does not want anyone to take advantage of the current situation as the Government is trying to resolve the country's economic problems.

"The movement needs to place its staunch support behind Dr Mahathir and the Government."

She also said there was no concrete evidence to show that four Wanita Umno members had participated in an illegal demonstration in Permatang Pauh in Penang recently.

The four women were among 25 Umno members who received show-cause letters from the party's disciplinary and management committee.

"We are satisfied that their alleged involvement is only hearsay and that there is no concrete proof that they were involved in the reformation movement.

"As such, the movement hopes that the party's disciplinary committee will not be harsh on them," she said.

Since September, Siti Zaharah said, the movement had embarked on a nationwide campaign to inform grassroots members of the Government's efforts to resolve the current political and economic problems.

"We are now concentrating on strengthening the movement. Besides ensuring stability within the movement, this will also enable us to face future challenges," she said.

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