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Parliament-Sticker

DAP REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF BN STICKERS CAUSES UPROAR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 25 (Bernama) -- A DAP member caused an uproar in the Dewan Rakyat today when he asked for the removal of Barisan Nasional (BN) stickers from the desks of Members of Parliament.

When Tan Kok Wai (DAP-Cheras) stood up to say Speaker Tun Zahir Ismail should have the stickers removed, his request was met with objection from BN MPs.

On Zahir's instruction, the sergeant-at-arms then removed the stickers with the slogan "BN, Before, Now and Forever" from the desks of opposition members only because none was seen at the desks of government members.

Several government members then asked for the stickers but were turned down.

In protesting Tan's request, government backbenchers said Tan was trying to buy time so that opposition leader Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjong) could be around to ask his question.

Lim, slated to ask question six, was not in the House yet when Tan interrupted the proceedings with his request after question four was answered.

Tan said this was not the first time BN supporters were distributing stickers in the House because previously stickers with the message "We Support Dr Mahathir" were also given to MPs.

"It looks like things have gone too far. Is this the work of the BN Youth or is the distribution aided by Parliament staff?" said Tan.

"Parliament is not a centre for spreading propaganda. Parliament is the supreme legislature which should be respected," he said.

Zahir said he did not know who placed the stickers.

Tan also questioned why the souvenir shop at Parliament House was distributing catalogues of items bearing logos of the BN dacing (scale).

"This shop is used for BN propaganda. So, tomorrow DAP can also display DAP goods," he said.

On Tan's claim that the shop was unlicensed, Zahir said the matter would be investigated.

"As far as I know the shop pays the rental. The shop is privately owned and does not belong to Parliament. It can distribute or sell anything it wants," he said.

In the midst of the 10-minute verbal exchange on the issue, Lim entered the House and Zahir asked him to pose his question as Robert Lau Hoi Chew (BN-Sibu) was not present to ask question five.

When Lim rose to ask his question, he was met with boos from the BN camp which felt that the whole thing was planned by the DAP.

Before posing his question, Lim said: "This is not a conspiracy."

-- BERNAMA

NZ YBY