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Najib-Wan Azizah

WAN AZIZAH HAS GONE OFF THE LIMIT, SAYS NAJIB

SUNGAI PETANI, April 30 (Bernama) -- Umno vice president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today that National Justice Party (Keadilan) president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Ismail has gone off the limit by criticising the country's leaders abroad.

Describing her action as inappropriate, he said that it clearly showed her lack of patriotism and love for the country.

"Making wild allegations and defaming the country's leaders like drawing parallels between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Ferdinand Marcos is going off the limit and unfounded.

"Judging from facts, we can see that under Dr Mahathir, there have been lots of progress and development whereas under Marcos' rule, the situation in the Philippines was the reverse," he told reporters after opening the Padang Serai Umno divisional delegates' conference at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Kuala Ketil 2, in Kuala Ketil, near here.

Najib, who is Education Minister, was commenting on an address by Wan Azizah, wife of former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, to the Rotary Club in Manila yesterday when she alleged that Dr Mahathir and his "desperate cabal" will stop at nothing to destroy Anwar's political career and his character.

Najib said that Wan Azizah's action could also create problem for the region by dragging a member country of Asean into interfering in the domestic affairs of another member country.

He said that since the Philippines had stated that the visit was a private one, President Joseph Estrada should not do anything that could be defined as interfering in the internal affairs of another Asean member country.

"Surely if we were to receive groups or individuals from the Philippines the republic's government is unhappy with, they will also feel offended by such a move.

"We hope that leaders of Asean nations appreciate their bilateral relations in the context of Asean which upholds the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member countries," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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