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Fong-Banks

HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTRY TO MEET NUBE

ALOR GAJAH, March 19 (Bernama) -- The Human Resources Ministry will meet the National Union of Bank Employees (Nube) next week to get an explanation on alleged breaches in customer secrecy by certain officers of two banks in Melaka.

Minister Dr Fong Chan Onn said the ministry regretted such acts as they would erode the people's confidence in financial institutions in the country.

The meeting with the Nube leaders would focus on efforts to enhance discipline and respect for the rights of customers among bank staff in the country, he said.

He told reporters this after a dinner organised by the Pulau Sebang branch of St John Ambulance, here, last night. During the function, the organisation received a van for its activities and emergency services.

Dr Fong was commenting on Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohamed Ali Rustam's statement that certain employees of Bank Islam and Bank Bumiputera Commerce in Melaka had leaked information on the state government's transactions with the banks.

Last Friday, prime minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was reported as saying that the bank managements must, to a certain extent, be held responsible for the acts of their employers who leaked information on bank transactions which were regarded as confidential.

Dr Fong said all employees of financial institutions in the country had a duty and trust not to leak confidential information on their clients.

Asked whether the leak could have resulted from the officers' dissatisfaction with the government's decision to merge several banks, he said that whatever their feelings over the measures taken by their employers, they should not resort to such acts.

Asked about the Melaka government's proposal to withdraw its fixed deposits from the two banks, he said that as a client, it had the right to do so if it was dissatisfied with the service provided.

-- BERNAMA

MYD JK