

19 JUN 2001

Umno-Briefing (Rafidah)

WANITA UMNO PLEDGES TO BE FREE OF MONEY POLITICS

KUALA LUMPUR, JUN 19 (Bernama) -- The Umno Wanita movement today pledged to rid itself of money politics and urged its members to do everything possible to avoid from indulging in such practices which could affect the party.

Its head, Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said no amount of money could replace good leadership at whatever level.

"In Wanita, fortunately it (the problem) is not to the extent people report (of money politics). I am happy with that," she said when met after attending the Umno Presidential Briefing by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in conjunction with the 55th Umno general assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) beginning tomorrow.

Rafidah said so far the problem was not worrying, but it did not mean it would not crop up in the Wanita movement.

She urged the movement's members to appreciate what was stressed by the president when delivering his message which, among others, touched on the need for them to inculcate a sense of loyalty to the party if they wanted the party to remain strong.

"We understand what was being stressed by the president as it was clearly happening in the party and the fighting spirit and loyalty to the party had been eroded," she said.

Rafidah said Dr Mahathir also stressed on the importance of giving priority to the party rather than self-interest and carrying out their tasks according to the needs of the party instead of any agenda for individual benefits.

"(Now) there is a trend of not supporting Umno but rather that person or this person, this is a danger to the party in the long term.

"We are fortunate because when we struggled, the party was strong, respected, and had dignity but if its dignity was allowed to be eroded, the young generation inheriting the party would find that the party no longer exists, what is left is only the framework, this is what we want to avoid," she said.

-- BERNAMA

ZAI WNZ LAT AO

PM-Huaren 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

PM SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT ANY CONTROVERSY - 2

Earlier, Lim declined comment on the proposed purchase by the consortium.

Meanwhile, MCA Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat said the offer by the consortium could ease the tension within the party,

Deputy Finance Minister and MCA vice-president Datuk Chan Kong Choy, when commenting on the matter, said the fact that the consortium members made the offer within a short period demonstrated their strong opposition to the transaction.

The consortium has made an offer to buy the Nanyang shares from Huaren at a price of about RM234.309 million or RM5.60 per share, i.e. 10 sen higher than the price paid by Huaren per share.

Chan said the offer reflected their strong feelings against the takeover of Nanyang, which has a history of 78 years, not only by MCA but also any other political party.

-- BERNAMA  
SHO SHY YBY