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Zainal criticises neo-colonial attitude of corporate figures

A SENATOR yesterday hit out at some of the country's prominent corporate figures, whom he claimed displayed a neo-colonial attitude when dealing with their counterparts abroad, something which has tarnished Malaysia's image.

Senator Zainal Rampak said that this trend is unacceptable as these corporate figures were boastful compared with those from other countries who were down to earth and very friendly to others.

Zainal recalled an incident where a senior officer from Telekom Malaysia was asked to leave Ghana within 24 hours for being high-handed.

"The officer had scolded his driver who is a native using vulgar words and spat on him just because the driver came late to fetch him. The driver had submitted a report to the Ghana Foreign Ministry which then sent a 24-hour eviction notice to the officer."

Zainal said this when debating the Third Outline Perspective Plan.

"The attitude of the officer was very neo-colonial - he looked down on the native just because Malaysia is among the country's main investors. "I am convinced that this is not an isolated case and happens elsewhere."

Zainal, who is the Malaysian Trades Union Congress president, said Malaysian businessmen should take Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is always humble when visiting abroad, as an example.

"My counterparts abroad admire the way Dr Mahathir handles every situation. He is always calm, even when he is discussing politics or the economy."

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