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Umno-Senai

AZIZ CALLS ON ADAM TO SPEAK UP AT UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 18 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth vice-head Datuk Abdul Aziz Sheikh Fadzir today called on the Senai Umno division chairman, Datuk Adam Abdul Hamid, to speak his mind on educational issues at the party's general assembly which starts on Thursday.

He said all the delegates would surely want to hear the views of Adam who was dissatisfied with Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad's handling of the educational issues.

"I believe that many delegates want to hear Datuk Adam's views and he should speak up at the Umno assembly so that all the delegates will understand why he tabled a motion on a vote of no-confidence against Tan Sri Musa at the division's meeting," he said.

He told Bernama this at the opening of the Malaysian Umno Youth Expo by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, here.

"Adam should use the Umno channel to speak up instead of moving no-confidence votes against the leaders because it is not Umno's culture," he said.

On a claim by Pulai Umno division committee member Dr Mohamed Azam Rauzan that the delegates were not free to give their views and criticisms at the delegates conference, he said this was inaccurate because Umno had never gagged anyone.

Aziz said anyone was free to make constructive criticisms but they must be factual, not emotional, and must be responsible for their words.

Dr Mohamed Azam, in an article he wrote in a local Malay newspaper, had claimed that the delegates were not free to speak because they were asked to protect the image of their respective state umno liaison chiefs.

He said that because of this, the Umno assembly could not serve as a platform for check and balance for the party.

He also claimed that the delegates still were practising the culture of bowing their heads and not criticising freely.

Aziz said that Umno Youth would also raise the education issue and that it understood party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's disappointment with the achievement of Malay students.

The issue would be discussed so that the special privileges of the Malays would not become an experiment that could undermine the advantage of Malay students to obtain places in institutions of higher learning, he said.

Umno Youth would also raise the issue of the failure of Malay corporate figures who were so closely linked to politics that the fate of their businesses depended on the rise or fall of a particular minister.

"The implementation of efforts to produce entrepreneurs must be improved on because many businessmen usually fall when their "head", namely the finance minister, no longer holds that post," he said.

He said the aim to produce at least 30 per cent successful Malays in the corporate world would not be achieved as long as these entrepreneurs were produced by the finance ministers.

-- BERNAMA

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