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Hishammuddin-Education

UMNO YOUTH WANTS 10 PER CENT INCREASE FOR BUMIS IN IPTS

KUALA LUMPUR, June 6 (Bernama) -- The Umno Youth movement wants private institutions of higher learning (IPTS) to increase the intake of bumiputera students to 10 per cent of the total student population in the respective IPTS.

This was also to balance the government decision to allocate a quota of 10 per cent to non-bumiputeras entering the matriculation programmes and the Mara Junior Science Colleges (MRSM).

Umno Youth head Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said the number of bumiputera students in IPTS at the moment was less than five per cent and this gap should be reduced.

The increase in the intake of bumiputeras could be implemented by creating scholarship schemes, relaxing the requirements or through awareness, he told reporters after chairing the Umno Youth exco meeting, here today.

He hoped the 10 per cent quota issue would not be looked at in terms of emotion, and should be tackled wisely so that it would not affect the position of the Malays.

He said that last year Umno Youth rejected the proposal to implement the system of meritocracy in the intake of students to public institutions of higher learning (IPTA) as it did not want the position of the Malays to be affected.

However, the implementation of the system had been agreed upon after it was found that not only did it not affect the position of bumiputera students, there were now more bumiputera students who succeeded in extending their studies at the IPTAs, he said.

Hishammuddin said Umno Youth would give clarifications on the 10 per cent quota for non-bumiputeras in the intake of students into the MRSMs and matriculation programmes in the states and had already started making the clarifications in Johor at the Johor Umno Youth Convention, and in Terengganu tomorrow.

As such, the movement wanted everyone to accept fully the Vision School concept to inculcate national integration, which shared the same objective with the government decision to allocate a quota for non-bumiputera students in the MRSMs and matriculation programmes.

The Vision School concept places the National Primary Schools, the Chinese Type National Primary Schools and the Tamil Type National Primary Schools within a single complex which enables the students to share facilities such as the field and canteen, with the objective of inculcating the spirit of goodwill at an early stage.

On the meeting between Umno Youth and party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last week, Hishammuddin said many issues were discussed including education in efforts to create Malay students who were capable of competing.

He said Umno Youth had no qualms about increasing the number of tuition and guidance classes and might create a fund to assist Malay students who could not afford to further their studies at the IPTS if necessary.

On the Umno Youth general assembly this month, Hishammuddin said 690 delegates including 30 Exco members were expected to attend it.

In conjunction with the assembly, Umno Youth would hold the Young Entrepreneurs Expo, an exhibition on the Afghanistan Aid Mission as well as the "Umno Youth Entering the Kampung" programmes at the Putra World Trade

Centre beginning June 18 to be opened by the Prime Minister.

-- BERNAMA

HK RZS RON AO