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Azalina-Magazine

PUTERI CALLS FOR BAN ON "THE ECONOMIST"

PENANG, April 27 (Bernama) -- Puteri Umno has urged the government to ban the circulation of The Economist magazine in the country for carrying unfounded allegations against Malaysia and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in its April 5 issue.

The movement's chief, Azalina Othman Said, said Puteri was saddened by the allegations made against the country and the prime minister.

The sources for the article appeared to be frustrated people and it was regrettable that the writer did not verify his information, she said.

"It is clear that the writer did not do any cross-checking and accepted wholesale the information given by his sources. The allegations raised in the article are old issues," she told reporters after opening the Jelutong Umno Division delegates meeting here today.

As such, stern action should be taken against the magazine for carrying a baseless article which could create anger among the people, she said.

The article, entitled "The Changing of The Guard: A Survey of Malaysia", belittled the policies and programmes implemented by the government under the leadership of Dr Mahathir.

On the protest of four Puteri branches on the recent Jelutong Division Puteri delegates meeting on April 13, she said the matter had been resolved.

They lodged the protest over non-receipt of the notice of the meeting, she said.

"As the Puteri chief, I am embarrassed by this matter because it gave the impression that I could not handle the affairs of members," she said.

A tabloid which carried a report on the protest had given the impression that certain quarters had instigated the delegates not to enter the hall for the meeting, she said.

Seventeen delegates from the four branches refused to enter the hall because they had sent a protest about not receiving the notice of meeting dated March 27.

-- BERNAMA

NER ZU YBY