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Umno-Wanita (Capture)

RAFIDAH OUTLINES STRATEGY FOR CAPTURING KELANTAN AND TERENGGANU

KUALA LUMPUR, June 18 (Bernama) -- Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz today outlined a 5S-strategy which she says can help the party wrest Kelantan and Terengganu from PAS in the next general election.

In her adjournment speech at the Wanita Umno general assembly here, she said the five-pronged approach for success comprised "sikap" (attitude), "semangat" (spirit), strategy, "sehaluan" (togetherness) and "setia" (loyalty).

"The 5S-approach was drawn up from my analysis, and it is very likely that we can capture the two states by adopting this strategy," she said.

She said the opposition won many seats in the two states not because of its strength but because of internal problems in Umno.

Umno was hoping to win back these seats, especially where the party had lost narrowly, she said.

Rafidah urged all Umno members to continue with their struggle and to reach out to the grassroots to win support for the party.

"We should rectify the situation if PAS misleads the Malays, deviates from Islam and splits the community. We must build our strength based on unity," she said.

Rafidah said the movement would protect the interests of Wanita members with regard to seat allocation for the general election.

The movement would maintain the seats it contested in the last election and would try to get more in view of the redelineation of electoral boundaries, she said.

On education, she said Wanita members should not blame the government for the problem of a shrinking male student population in local institutions of higher learning.

"This happened because boys were involved in social problems like drug addiction causing them to drop out. We should point the finger at ourselves because they (male students) are either our children or our relatives," she said.

She urged Wanita Umno members to get more involved in community activities in their areas to change the mindset, way of life and attitudes of the people to produce loyal and patriotic citizens.

"I propose a special programme called Rakan Wanita, and we will work together with all parties on the same wavelength as Wanita Umno," she said.

Rafidah also said this years' debates were of better quality than those of previous years.

"From my observation, the arguments this time were more focused and contained accurate facts and figures," she said.

Rafidah expressed Wanita Umno's appreciation to the prime minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, for always standing by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

She said her strong support had helped Dr Mahathir in times of crisis and enabled him to perform his duties to the satisfaction of Umno and the country.

The assembly unanimously approved three resolutions -- on the Wanita Umno chief's keynote address, education and religion, and economy -- which were debated by 14 delegates.

-- BERNAMA

MAN KHY ROS YBY