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Abdullah-Info

ABDULLAH: UMNO MUST HAVE GOOD WORK MANAGEMENT, INFO DISSEMINATION

SEREMBAN, March 29 (Bernama) -- Umno should have the best work management and information dissemination mechanism to counter slanders and allegations against the party, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

The acting Prime Minister said if information was conveyed quickly and accurately, all allegations can be replied promptly.

"We want Umno to have the best management compared to other parties in terms of work management and information dissemination.

"Hence, it's very important for members to get ample information in a cyber war cyber war. The Information Unit must be revamped.

"Gather information that can be obtained at source and relayed it (to members)," he said when closing an Information Technology seminar organised by Puteri Umno themed "Information War and The Need For IT Culture."

A total of 330 Puteri Umno members from 165 divisions are attending the seminar being held for the first time.

It is aimed at guiding Puteri Umno members to become IT savvy and experts in disseminating information and to counter hotly debated issues, especially those circulated by groups opposed to Umno.

Abdullah said Puteri Umno members must have the skills and knowledge to counter the accusations apart from having the ability to evaluate the truth and false so that the replies given are accurate and convincing.

"But the replies must be given immediately, failing which, we (Umno) will be regarded as a party with no credibility.

"We do not want people to think we are liars or our website disseminate false news because we do not have the correct information for discussions," he said.

Abdullah, who is also Umno deputy president, also urged Puteri Umno members, especially the seminar participants, whom he described as "Puteri Cyber War Commandos" to relay feedback on whatever issues they see, hear and slanders deliberately hurled at Umno through IT facilities.

"Nevertheless, we (Umno members) should not leave to Puteri members merely. Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) himself had often clarified and replied to various issues raised.

"We don't worry because we have the answers to the issues raised and we must provide the answers to the issues immediately.

"If we can do this, then the people will respect our party because they understand our policies and understand why an issue is being tackled by our party," he said.

Abdullah suggested that more Puteri Umno members be trained in IT in future because in the present era those who can capitalise on the vast IT facilities quickly and correctly can be in the forefront than others.

He believed Puteri Umno members could deliver the task of disseminating party information via IT quickly, accurately and efficiently as the majority of Puteri Umno members were young, trained and exposed to the facilities available.

Abdullah also agreed to consider three requests made by Puteri Umno chief Azalina Othman Said in her speech.

They are Umno should increase IT and Cyberwar experts, make training compulsory to set up Puteri Cyberwar Units in every division and Puteri Cyberwar Units must be equipped with sophisticated IT system, including wireless broadband, to facilitate accessibility to Internet access.

-- BERNAMA

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