

# Anwar's daughter will not contest and risk expulsion

STAR - 8 MAR 2004

FORMER deputy prime minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's daughter Nurul Izzah will not risk expulsion from her university for standing as an election candidate,, *Nanyang Siang Pau* reported.

It said Nurul Izzah would not want to go against the Universities and University Colleges Act, which prohibits students from taking part in politics. Failure to follow will lead to expulsion.

Nurul Izzah, a Year Three Universiti Tenaga undergraduate, is expected to sit for her final examination next month.

The report said she was in a dilemma - having to choose between her studies and politics.

It said that, however, she had not entirely given up hope to stand in the elections, as she told the press: "If there was no clash of timing (between examination and election), I would consider contesting."

Talk of her standing against Lembah Pantai incumbent and Women and Family Development Minister Datuk Seri

Shahrizat Abdul Jalil had been rife.

Sin Chew reported that while Nurul Izzah faced obstacles in politics, her mother Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Ismail also faced an uphill task in leading Parti Keadilan against the Barisan Nasional.

The daily said the crucial question was not whether Keadilan was allocated more seats in the opposition this time round, but would the party fare better.

In an election analysis report, the daily said the party was "sailing against the current" in facing the Barisan.

It predicted that apart from Wan Azizah retaining the Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat, the party might not win any other seat.

Sin Chew also quoted DAP deputy chairman Karpal Singh as saying he felt "lonely" without former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad contesting this time.

"Dr Mahathir is a very good rival. The debate between us had always been a joy. We will miss him, especially in Parliament," he quipped.