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Umno-Puteri (Apology)

PUTERI LEADERS ASK RAFIDAH TO APOLOGISE TO DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, July 20 (Bernama) -- Several Puteri Umno leaders today asked the Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz to apologise to Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the issue of Approved Permits (APs).

They said that Rafidah should seek an apology from the former Prime Minister given his invaluable contributions to Umno and the people.

"I feel it is appropriate that she (Rafidah) apologise. Although Tun (Dr Mahathir) is no longer in the party or in the government, he is one whom we should not forget because of his struggles and contribution to the party, said the movement's Assistant Secretary, Bibi Sharliza Mohd Khalid.

Bibi Sharliza said Rafidah should publicly state her position if she felt that she need not seek his apology, because her actions were not meant to hurt Dr Mahathir's feelings.

"What we want is a clear explanation from her side (Rafidah) although we know that she had no such intentions," he told Bernama here today.

The movement's Assistant Treasurer, Suraya Yaacob who concurred with Bibi Sharliza said that the issue should be resolved through a private meeting between Rafidah and Dr Mahathir and not through a letter which explained the AP issuance process.

"That letter is rather formal, just like a government letter....there must be a way. Just like we treat our father, you can't apologise to your father in a letter," said Suraya who is Kedah state assemblyman for Sungai Tiang.

Puteri Umno executive councillor for Jelutong Division Che Puteh Abu Bakar also agreed with her other colleagues that Rafidah's apology would be good for the party.

"Just as in a family, apologising does not mean that she (Rafidah) is guilty, but more of respect to your elder member. It is like a child asking an apology from the father, even though the child has not done anything wrong," she said.

Meanwhile, Kelana Jaya Puteri Umno division chief Norhazlin Ahmad believes the issue is already resolved when Rafidah sent her letter to explain the issue to Dr Mahathir.

-- BERNAMA

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