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Youth-AP

UMNO YOUTH ASKS RAFIDAH TO CLEAR CONFUSION ON AP ISSUE

KUALA LUMPUR, July 27 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth said today International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz should clear the confusion surrounding the issue of Approved Permits (APs) for importing cars.

"I hope we can get a detailed explanation as soon as possible," the movement's deputy head Khairy Jamaluddin told reporters after chairing a meeting of youth heads of Barisan Nasional component parties here.

Asked on the statement by former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad that Rafidah had misled delegates at the Umno general assembly held last week, he said Umno Youth could not make any conclusion from it.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir claimed Rafidah did not provide all the facts in her explanation on the issue on the final day of the assembly on Saturday.

"We have heard from Rafidah and Tun Dr Mahathir, but because we are not involved in the administration of the country, we cannot make any conclusion on the situation.

"Whether Rafidah had misled us or did not tell the truth, we don't know. It is for her to comment, not Umno Youth," he said.

He also said the government should review the national automotive policy to protect the interest of the country, and the future of Proton and Malay vendors.

"We want to see if the policy, which will be out soon, will review the AP system and if it (AP) had really helped Malay entrepreneurs or otherwise or if there had been abuse.

"We also want to see if the policy will promote the Malay agenda, Proton's future, Malay vendors and Proton's ability to compete against other makes," Khairy said.

He added that there were still many unanswered questions in the existing automotive policy, including the effectiveness of the AP system in increasing Malay entrepreneurs in the automotive industry.

-- BERNAMA

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