

PKR and Umno Youth against PTPTN listing in CCRIS

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Both PKR and Umno appear united in their opposition against the government's move to include the National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) borrowers in the Central Credit Reference Information System (CCRIS).

PKR director of strategy Rafizi Ramli said this is tantamount to blackmailing the borrowers.

The move would hurt borrowers' credit standing, most of whom are youths, and deprive them of future loans for a car or home, he noted in a statement today.

NONE"Financial institution can use this to deny loan facility to PTPTN borrowers registered in CCRIS," he said.

"It is akin to kicking someone who is already down - PTPTN borrowers are already burdened by the high cost of living and low wages and they are now being threatened by PTPTN to deprive them of a car, house and other needs."

He said this is in addition to the previous move of placing PTPTN defaulters on the immigration blacklist, preventing them from travelling overseas.

Education Minister II Idris Jusoh had yesterday announced that those who did not service their PTPTN loan would be included in CCRIS which is linked to all financial institutions in the country.

Rafizi vowed that PKR would conduct a nationwide campaign against the move and warned the government not to blackmail and punish youths who had borrowed from PTPTN.

KJ: It's not the same

In another statement, PKR communications director Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad blamed the youth's financial burden on the government's decision to corporatise the education sector.

"It has to be reminded that most undergraduates that borrow from PTPTN are from low to lower-middle income families.

"If they could afford it (higher education), they would surely not have borrowed from PTPTN," he said.

Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin said on Twitter today that he had voiced his objections to Idris this morning.

"Umno Youth does not agree that PTPTN borrowers be listed in CCRIS," he tweeted.

"PTPTN is not the same as borrowing from the bank for a car or house. Do not burden the undergraduates."

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