Nurul Izzah 'adopts' Anwar's speech
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By Kamles Kumar

PARLIAMENT The Dewan Rakyat today barred Nurul Izzah Anwar (PKR-Lembah Pantai) from reading opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim's (PKR-Permatang Pauh) speech.

Deputy Speaker Ronald Kiandee said Nurul Izzah can adopt portions of opposition leader Anwar's speech as her own.

"The speech delivered by you is your own and not from the opposition leader," said Kiandee.

He said the speech will also be recorded in the parliamentary hansard as Nurul Izzah's speech.

Regardless, Nurul Izzah read Anwar's speech in first-person, where the latter stressed that he was innocent of sodomy charges and was the victim of a political conspiracy.

"I am not guilty of this false accusation and the allegations were untrue. This claim was the engineerings of an evil political conspiracy to end my career.

"It is not a coincidence the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) released an official statement on the decision minutes after the judgment was announced and in fact before the sentencing was meted," Nurul said, reading from Anwar's speech.

Anwar also questioned the actions of prosecutor Muhammad Shafee Abdullah (left) who embellished the in-camera evidence provided by Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan in the sodomy case

“How could it be that after such a slanderous incarceration, attacks are being continued on me? Isn’t this against the ethics and principles of the judiciary?

“Should this vengeance be allowed to taint the integrity of the judiciary system along,”, Anwar queried.

No decision on legal action against Shafee

Speaking to reporters later, Nurul Izzah said the family has not decided yet on whether to pursue legal action against Shafee. They would wait till the plea for royal pardon is either accepted or rejected

“For now, all eyes should be on the qazaf reports lodged against Shafee. We can lodge as many reports as we want, but the question is, will the authorities act without fear or favour?” she said.

She said it was important for the authorities to act on the reports, especially with speculation being strong that Shafee would take over as the next attorney-general.

“It is very important, since he (Shafee) is touted to be the future attorney-general. God forbid.

“I think when you have a conduct such as he has shown in the past, no one will be safe if he decides to prosecute them,” she warned.

Touching on her father’s absence from Parliament, Nurul Izzah said it was “bittersweet” for her to be there without his presence, for he acquainted her to the world of politics.

“He is the reason we got into politics. It is not easy for me to be here in his absence, but I do know there is a bigger picture and I want the struggle to continue.

“I am very proud to be his voice today and to help address many issues that would have been a concern to him,” Nurul Izzah told reporters in a sombre manner.

Several groups, including the Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia (Abim), have lodged complaints with the Islamic Affairs Department on Shafee for disclosing graphic details of the sex act between Anwar and sodomy complainant Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan in a talk in Kelana Jaya.

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