

Gender equality panel prefers to keep 'cool'
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The Parliamentary Caucus on Gender Equality will not meet to discuss the case of two BN parliamentarians who uttered sexist remarks in Parliament last week.

Its chairperson Rozaidah Talib said the caucus is currently assisting the Women, Family and Community Development Ministry to sort out the matter and as such, she "does not want to blow the matter out of proportion."

"Personally I feel the tone they (Bung Mokhtar Radin and Mohd Said Yusof) used is not correct, and it shouldn't have been said in Parliament," said the Ampang MP.

However, she added that the opposition must not get too emotional over the matter.

Meanwhile, Suhakam has condemned the two MPs for uttering derogatory remarks against women in the Parliament.

"Their remarks are very crude, and it very unbecoming of the two elected representatives," said Suhakam Commissioner N Siva Subramaniam.

He was referring to Bung Mokhtar and Mohd Said who said "Where is the leak? Batu Gajah MP too leaks every month" to Fong Po Kuan, who is the MP for Batu Gajah during a heated argument over the leaks the Parliament.

MPs should apologise

Any sexist remark, added Siva, in a way that belittles women must be condemned by true loving Malaysians.

Siva also opines that the parliamentarians should apologise for their uncouth remarks.

"It is fair for them (Bung Mokhtar and Mohd Said) to say sorry," he said, adding that there is nothing wrong in saying sorry as any rational thinking man will apologise if he realises what he has done is wrong.

Siva said that as elected representatives of the people, they two MPs should have taken into consideration the sentiments of womenfolk.

"We all fight for the rights of Malaysians, and Malaysia has a good image for giving more roles to women," he said, adding that this incident must not be allowed to tarnish that image.

Following a cabinet's decision, Women, Family and Community Development Minister Shahrizat Abdul Jalil will meet the two erring MPs on the matter.