



BTN: Cabinet orders probe into 'racial slurs' claims
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The cabinet is upset over allegations that racial slurs had been uttered by a senior National Civics Bureau (BTN) official against ethnic Chinese and Indians during a recent function with Puteri Umno.

According to reports, Human Resource Minister Dr S Subramaniam said the cabinet also ordered the chief secretary to the government Mohd Sidek Hassan to investigate the claims against BTN deputy director Hamim Husin.

Hamim was alleged to have referred to the Chinese as *si sepet* (squinty eyes) and Indians as *si kaki botol* (alcoholics) when speaking of the need for Malays to cooperate with other ethnic communities for political purposes.

Subramaniam, speaking after the cabinet's weekly meeting, said the ministers were upset to hear of the allegations and wanted a full investigation.

"All we have now is a report on an online portal, claiming the deputy director made racist remarks. This is not enough to take action against the person involved.

"Chief Secretary to the Government Sidek Hassan has been directed to investigate the allegations first, before any action is taken," the MIC vice-president added.

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