

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	15/08/2017C

Gangster politics is not our culture, says Salleh

NST-15/8/2017 P3.10

KUALA LUMPUR: Gangster politics is not part of Malaysian culture, said Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Salleh Said Keruak following the commotion that broke out at the Nothing to Hide 2.0 forum on Sunday.

He said the fracas, which had left several people injured, should not happen again and that such incidents were not good for Malaysian politics.

"We must learn from this incident. Firstly, security must be given importance when any pro-

gramme is organised.

"Secondly, the programme must be organised in accordance with the conditions stipulated under the law.

"Thirdly, (members of the audience must) follow the security personnel's advice.

"Fourthly, we must remember that gangster politics is not our culture," he said in a blog posting yesterday.

Salleh, who is also Umno treasurer, criticised PKR deputy president Datuk Seri Azmin Ali for claiming that Prime Minister

Datuk Seri Najib Razak had orchestrated the incident.

He also panned Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia Youth chief Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman for alleging that there were elements to sabotage the event and hurt Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"I do not know from where Azmin received such information so quickly and accused



Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak

Najib of being the mastermind. I also do not know from where Syed Saddiq received his information."

Salleh supported Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin's statement that the incident should be condemned.

"The Umno Youth chief's reaction is on point. His statement

goes beyond political boundaries. This is the kind of response I ex-

pected from other political leaders but, sadly, they (opposition leaders) tend to be politicking all the time, even at a time when such a challenge is before us."

Khairy tweeted yesterday: "What happened at #Nothing2Hide must be condemned & cannot be tolerated. Hope Polis (sic) apprehend those responsible."

A commotion broke out during the forum on Sunday after a member of the audience asked Dr Mahathir about the 1985 Memali incident.