

**PKR alleges Ampang Umno disbursing ministry aid to students**  
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**By Clara Chooi**

PETALING JAYA, Nov 18 — PKR MP Zuraida Kamaruddin alleged today that the Ampang Umno division has been disbursing the RM100 allowance to students on behalf of the Education Ministry.

Zuraida told reporters here that parents and schoolteachers have been lodging complaints to her over the issue, claiming that students from the SK Ampang primary school were even asked to collect their allowance from the Umno division office this morning.

“This is clearly an abuse of power. The money should be distributed through the ministry and its officials, not by Umno division heads,” she told a press conference here.

The Ampang MP also revealed photographs taken by a parent showing the students receiving the aid at the division office on Jalan Bukit Belacan during a function.

“Umno is clearly desperate. The parents are angry about this, that they were told to go to Umno’s office to get the money,” she said.

When tabling Budget 2012 in Parliament last month, Datuk Seri Najib Razak had promised cash handouts, more money for civil servants, schools and a fund for “high-impact development” projects as part of his measures to put cash in the pockets of voters ahead of a general election expected soon.

Among others, the prime minister pledged cash assistance in the form of one-off RM500 to all households with a monthly income of below RM3,000; schooling assistance of RM100 for all primary and secondary students from Year 1 to Form 5; as well as RM200 in book vouchers for all students in public and private local institutions of higher learning, matriculation and Form 6.

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