

Rafidah: Government policy 'reforms' unnecessary
The Malaysian Insider
March 02, 2012
By Shazwan Mustafa Kamal

KUALA LUMPUR, March 2 — There is no need for thorough reforms with existing government policies as there is nothing wrong with them, a former minister said today.

Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz said the country's administrative system could be rated among "the best in the world", and that the problems exist only in the way some policies were implemented.

"If it (the system) is atrocious, I wouldn't be standing here. Don't blame the system, blame some parts of the system.

"It's the guys implementing the policies, the new generation... they don't understand what needs to be done," she said today at a lecture series organised by the National Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Malaysia.

"The word reform has been so well abused. Never use it unless you mean it.

"If there was a lack of accountability, we will be like Egypt. The government is made up of people, they cannot be perfect every time," she added.

The Umno lawmaker said what the government needed was to address weaknesses within the various departments, and cited a recent case where a ministry was lampooned for faulty English translations on its official website.

She also said that both the private sector and the government needed to co-operate to enhance competitiveness as well as retain local talent and ensure that their skills are fully utilised here.

"We have a lot going if we do repairs. A good solid home needs repairs but we don't tear down the house.

"Do not throw away the foundation on which the house was built."

Rafidah said that good governance meant ensuring a proper, competitive market with some form of government monitoring.

"We are no longer a low-labour cost economy... If we want businesses to compete (internationally) we must have a strong light in the global economy.

"If we are one small gloomy light, then it's good night for us," she concluded.

Copyright © 2012 The Malaysian Insider

Source: <http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/rafidah-government-policy-reforms-unnecessary/>