

Students Roundtable Conference Seeks Abolishment Of PTPTN's Service Charge
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 11 (Bernama) -- The abolishment of the National Higher Education Fund Corporation's (PTPTN) one per cent service charge is among the resolutions adopted at the National University Students Roundtable Conference Wednesday.

The conference, organised by Umno Youth Higher Education Bureau, was also attended by 160 students from public and private institutions of higher learning and representatives of non-governmental organisations, as well as PTPTN.

Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin said the conference also agreed that the PTPTN's repayment system be revamped by setting the minimum salary of RM3,000 and above to help ease the burden of the debtors.

"The improvement on the repayment system needs to be based on the debtor's comfortable level of income and not simply six months after graduating because sometimes these fresh graduates have jobs with a small salary," he said at the conference's closing ceremony.

Khairy said the blacklisting method which had made it difficult for errant debtors to make overseas trips or apply for loans should be abolished and replaced with other suitable methods.

Apart from that, the conference also agreed that the loans for students from Sabah and Sarawak pursuing studies in the peninsula should also include airline tickets to enable them to return home at least twice a year.

The conference also called on the government to give the allocation meant for distribution of RM100 schooling aid for every students directly to PTPTN for the purpose of opening the National Education Saving Scheme (SSPN) account.

Khairy said the resolutions would be handed over to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak via email.

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