

Do not take Action against Students with Differing Opinions – Ahmad Zahid
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KUALA LUMPUR, July 26 (Bernama) -- The Education Ministry has been advised not to take action against students with differing opinions from the government.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the control approach was no longer relevant today as most people are aware that students are full of idealism.

"We should guide the students as the time has passed when the government knows everything and is always right," he said at a dinner in conjunction with the Students' Parliament here tonight.

The two-day Students Parliament sitting starting today is being participated by 210 students from 26 local private and public universities.

Ahmad Zahid said all parties; especially the ministry and government agencies must recognize student leaders, especially those who are members of the Students' Parliament.

"When in meetings, listen to their voice...when they criticize, accept their criticism. When they give their opinions, listen to them.

"If they ask for funds, give them what they want," he said.

Ahmad Zahid said the government was open to all views, but students are advised to give their views in a proper and constructive manner, with intellectual content.

He said students should not take advantage of the government's open attitude by damaging the image of the government and country, but should use that opportunity to give constructive criticism.

At the event, Ahmad Zahid, who is also Home Minister, also announced the approval of RM250,000 in funds to the Malaysian Council of Former Elected Representatives (Mubarak) as the main organizer for the second Students Parliament held this year.

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