

PPBM Youth offers to work with Umno Youth on study loan debts

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Over 50,000 diploma holders estimated to be saddled with PTPTN debts, resulting in them being blacklisted, says PPBM Youth.

PETALING JAYA: PPBM Youth today offered to join hands with its counterpart in Umno to solve the issue of thousands of youths saddled with loan repayments to the National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN).

PPBM Youth leader Syed Saddiq Abdul Rahman said the leaders of the two parties should put aside their political differences and work together on two pressing problems facing youths – repaying PTPTN loans and finding jobs in a shrinking market.

He said he made the offer to Umno Youth since it was in a better position to talk to the government, in particular the education ministry and PTPTN.

“Umno Youth should join us if it is serious about fighting for the well-being of young Malays who comprise the bulk of the PTPTN debtors,” he said.

“We can also work with Umno Youth to obtain data on the actual number of young Malaysians facing the problems.”

Meanwhile, PPBM Youth education bureau member Abdul Hannaan Khairy estimated that more than 50,000 diploma holders who took up degree programmes before 2014 were burdened with repayments to PTPTN and had been blacklisted.

“Although they have been given approval to postpone their monthly repayments to PTPTN, they are still on the blacklist,” he said.

Higher Education Minister Idris Jusoh has said loan repayments to PTPTN rose annually with collections last year totalling RM3.4 billion.

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