

## **Rina denies 50 per cent cut in allocation for MARA**

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 13 (Bernama) -- Rural Development Minister Datuk Seri Rina Harun today refuted the claim that the allocation for Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) in Budget 2019 has been slashed by 50 per cent.

She said the claim was not true as MARA was allocated RM 3.705 billion under Budget 2019.

"I have read about the claim on the cut in allocation for MARA . I was shocked when it was said that the allocation was reduced from RM3.5 billion to RM1.3 billion.

"I deny it. Actually, the allocation for MARA in 2019 is RM3.7 billion. RM1.3 billion is for operating expenditure only. I suggest Rembau Member of Parliament (Khairy Jamaluddin) to read the book on Budget 2019," she said when met by reporters after opening the ministry's Best Company and Chief Executive Officer Award presentation.

She said this in response to Khairy's claim that the allocation for MARA was slashed by up to 50 per cent.

Meanwhile, when asked on talks that there is going to be a cabinet reshuffle and her name would be among those to be dropped, Rina said she was not aware of it.

"It is the prerogative of the prime minister (Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad). For now, I want to focus on the Rural Development Plan of Hope.

"I'll discharge the responsibility and trust that have been given to me for as long as I hold this post,"she added.

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