

Nazri: Govt need not apologise to Sukma

The Star - 8/11/2006

THE Government need not apologise to Sukma Darmawan Sasmitat Madja, whose retrial was withdrawn recently, because the law states that there is no need to do so.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said the rule of law clearly stated that there was no need to apologise for any case that was thrown out of court.

"Nowhere in the world do judges or the prosecution apologise for such a situation," he said while debating the Budget at the committee stage.

Nazri said that as such the question of an apology by the Attorney-General's Chambers did not arise.

He was replying to questions raised by Opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang (DAP - Ipoh Timur) and Datuk Kamaruddin Jaafar (PAS - Tumpat).

Both Lim and Kamaruddin had asked about the Government apologising to Sukma, the adopted brother of former deputy prime minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, and why it took so long for such a decision to be reached.

Nazri said the court proceedings had been conducted professionally and links to political sentiments should not be made.