

BHD



North Borneo Media Sdn Bhd managing director Mohammed Fikhrree Abu Bakar (left) exchanging the documents with UMS Deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Madya Datuk Dr Kasim Mansur (second right), witnessed by Datuk Seri Salleh Tun Said (second left) after the MoU signing ceremony yesterday.

NFC should answer accusations — Salleh

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KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Umno deputy chief Datuk Seri Panglima Salleh Said is of the opinion that National Feedlot Corporation (NFC) should answer all accusations against it.

“Although NFC has explained what has happened, we are seeing more questions being raised about the issue,” Salleh said when met at the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and North Borneo Sdn Bhd here yesterday.

On the calls by Sabah Umno members of parliament for Umno Women chief Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil to resign for her alleged involvement in the NFC scandal, Salleh said the decision should be taken by the party’s central leadership.

“Everyone has the right to give their opinions on the matter as Malaysia is a democratic country and there is room for all quarters to say what they feel.

“Therefore I leave it to the party’s central leadership to take the necessary action on the matter,” he said.

Sharizat had explained that she was not involved in NFC so what was important now was for NFC to come out and clarify the accusations against the company, he stressed.

Salleh who is also Kota Belud Umno chief, added that NFC and the Sharizat issue did not involve the government but was about an accusation on a company that received a loan from the government.

On Monday, Kalabakan member of parliament Datuk Abdul Ghapur Salleh wanted Shahrizat to quit the posts she is holding in the party and government.

He wanted Shahrizat to take that step over the NFC controversy for the good of Barisan Nasional (BN) and Umno in the coming 13th general election.

The controversy erupted after the 2010 Auditor-General’s Report raised shortcomings in the NFC cattle-breeding project in Gemas and said it had failed to meet its target.

Following this, opposition political parties highlighted alleged abuses concerning a RM250 million soft loan given by the government to NFC, and called on Shahrizat to step down.

Datuk Syed Ali Alhabshee, the Cheras Umno Division chief said people were linking the NFC controversy to Umno, accusing the party of protecting fraud when it was not the case at all.

“Some people are saying that Umno is breeding cattle for Shahrizat’s interests. How do we reply to that and who should take the responsibility?” he said.

Syed Ali said it was sad that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin had become targets of opposition parties which are accusing them of protecting Shahrizat’s family.

He said it was unfair for Umno, Najib and Muhyiddin to be made the targets.