Call on CEOs to review strategy to boost Malays

SURABAYA: Chief Executive Officers (CEO) of government linked companies (GLC) must review their strategies in improving the position of the Malays which is getting increasingly marginalised compared to other races in Malaysia.

Malay thinker, Tan Sri Dr Ibrahim Abu Shah said, currently, the group was seen as having deviated from their role in helping the economy of the Malays which still needed assistance.

As such, Dr Ibrahim, who is also deputy chairman of the Federation of Malay Economic Bodies (Gabem) urged the CEOs to understand the aspiration of the Malay race who needed their support to compete with the other races.

"We don't need CEOs of GLCs who graduated from renowned universities in the world if they don't understand the aspiration of the Malays. Such leaders are not suited to head GLCs," he said in his keynote address titled 'The Challenge of the Malay Generations in Economy: Educational Perspective', in conjunction with the third International Malay Education Seminar (SePMA) here, Sunday.

The third SePMA organised by UniMAP with the theme 'United in Championing the Survival of the Malays' was opened by Malay and Islamic World (DMDI) president Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam. Also present was UniMAP vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Kamarudin Hussin.

Commenting further, Ibrahim who is a former vice-chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), also suggested that the top officers of GLC be given exposures to their role in upholding the position of the Malays who were the majority community in the country.

In the meantime, Ibrahim, who is also Umno Supreme Council Member, said in facing the 14th General Election, Umno leaders must be aggressive in winning over the Malays who always supported the party.

"Not only the Malays in the peninsula, the Bumiputera in Sabah and Sarawak also cannot be neglected. We must empower their economy and education which will be beneficial to the Malay race and Bumiputera," he said.

He said Umno leaders should also not be afraid in voicing the right and lot of the Malay race which was enshrined in the federal constitution.

"We have no intention of taking the rights of others. On the other hand, we are only defending the right of the Malays. Don't be afraid to be labelled racists because the position of the Malays must be upheld," he said.

Meanwhile, Kamarudin said among the objectives in the organisation of SePMA was as a platform in empowering the agenda of the Malays in facing future challenges.

He said the third seminar, which was held for the first time outside Malaysia, was to foster closer ties and strengthen the cooperation of leaders in ensuring the continuity of their nation's policies, prioritising the survival of the Malay race.– Bernama