YANG DI-PERTUA DEWAN RAKYAT (SPEAKER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)



YPDR.10/4/5/1 Jld.2 (24) 17 June 2021

PRESS RELEASE

This morning (17 June 2021), a news report in *Utusan Malaysia* which was later translated and carried by, among others, the *MalayMail* and *The Star* have misquoted and misconstrued my statement in response to the Prime Minister's national speech.

On 15 June, 2021, the Prime Minister addressed the nation on the National Rehabilitation Plan (*Pelan Pemulihan Negara*). In it, the Prime Minister had among others, stated that Parliament would reconvene in September or October 2021.

I had been quoted by *Utusan Malaysia* and consequently the *MalayMail* and *The Star* as saying that the government and the Prime Minister's plan to reconvene Parliament in September or October 2021 was "rational", "acceptable and not too late to address Malaysia's multiple crises".

I would like to put on record what I actually said about the matter.

I had merely expressed that the Prime Minister had made a commitment to reconvene Parliament in September or October 2021 and the had spelled out his rationale for doing so in his said speech.

As stated above, I never asserted nor did I form any conclusion that the Prime Minister's decision is "rational", or that it was "acceptable and not too late". The statement attributed to me in those news reports are not true.

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I also wish to put on record that I have not made any statement in respect of, or commented on the statements released by *Istana Negara* and the Keeper of the Rulers' Seal (*Penyimpan Mohor Besar Raja-Raja*) yesterday. Any reports which refer to my purported comments on those statements are not true.

I urge all relevant parties to correct the mistake with immediate effect so as to prevent further misleading information to be circulated among the public.

As the Speaker of the House of Representatives, my constitutional duty and commitment to parliamentary democracy remains firm. I have reiterated on multiple occasions that Parliament is ready to reconvene in every aspect, consistent with and in accordance with the Federal Constitution and standing orders.

DATUK AZHAR AZIZAN HARUN

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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