



KESATUAN KEBANGSAAN WARTAWAN SEMENANJUNG MALAYSIA  
NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

馬來西亞半島新聞從業員職工會

30B, Jalan Padang Belia, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Tel: 603-22742867 Fax: 603-22744776  
Web: www.nujm.org email: nujsia@gmail.com

MARCH 31, 2023

TO ALL NEWS EDITORS

### NUJ PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KUALA LUMPUR: The National Union of Journalists Peninsular Malaysia (NUJ) vehemently objects the act of Communications and Digital Minister Fahmi Fadzil who had called out Berita Harian's analytical report on overnight policy rate (OPR).

The report by Berita Harian was a forecast of the OPR quoting financial experts which is typical news coverage by media agencies and portals nationwide.

It is also the norm for media agencies to also publicise their stories on their respective social media platforms which are open to the public in delivering the latest news.

As minister in charge of media, Fahmi should have been aware of this common practice where the media will run stories based on the opinion and projections of industry's experts.

His actions today undermines the BH story, which was posted and linked to Facebook, and commenting on the story as a lie could bring negative public perception to the media.

The minister's comments were also reported by a portal, Malaysia Now titled, "Fahmi up in arms over report on possible OPR hike." The article also quoted FB users based on the comments that they understood the usage of the word, "dijangka" in the one liner update on BH's Facebook.

Where is the press freedom as promised by the new government if the media's own 'minister' labelled an article by a local media on financial projection as "slander?"

NUJM hopes that the minister can be more understanding to the stories that the local media work produces as the country's reliable, trusted, and credible news sources.

Teh Athira Yusof  
General Secretary

