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## Youth and Wanita delegates hit out at TNB

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin has hit out at Tenaga Nasional Bhd, saying the utility company should not have resorted to increasing the electricity tariff as it had been raking in billions of ringgit in profit.

TNB, said Khairy, had clearly placed profit before the interest of the people, many of whom would suffer due to the increase.

"We hear the increase in electricity tariff is not just because of the hike in fuel prices, but also to pad up TNB's profits which have run into billions of ringgit," Khairy said.

He reminded TNB that it had to be more concerned for the people and should not be solely motivated by the bottom line.

"For Umno Youth, the rise in tariffs which are not in line with the increase in fuel prices only serves to profit TNB which is more concerned about their shareholders and not the rakyat," he charged.

At a press conference later, Khairy said TNB's need to get a return on its investments was no excuse "when the rakyat are victimised".

Youth and Wanita delegates also voiced their anger over the electricity tariff hike.

Several of them who took part in the debates took a swipe at TNB, calling it irresponsible.

Kedah Umno Youth representative Mahathir Hamid said the higher production cost due to the tariff hike would lead to a rise in price of goods, making life harder for lower income groups.

Perak Wanita delegate Nolee Ashilin Mohammed Radzi said the announcement on the tariff hike was ill-timed.

"It is not only the public who are upset with the hike, but also our members," she added.