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ETHICS OF STATE OFFICIALS

High expectation towards state officials' behavior seems to be suppressed again. It is because of the following recent case of "papa minta saham" (dad asks for shares)" that ends with the change of Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources. It is also interspersed by some behaviors of other state officials in legislative sphere such as corruption as well as decency. The newest case re-appears, even no kiddingly, an official such as head of Constitutional Court does it.

An example showed by head of Constitutional Court, who met head of Commission III House of Representatives. It is not exemplary as the meeting was to facilitate the way in feasibility and proper test for the position in next period.

Sanctions oral reprimand by Council of Ethics is not adequate enough as state officials who is required to be sterile of everything that relates to work or position. Problems of ethics is not in law sphere yet it is the problem itself. Ethical demands is morally higher than law. There are ethics - which are abstract - that cannot be embodied in legal rules but still be ethical values. These ethical values are expected in people's behavior in certain time, place and position.

Old teachings about ethics seems need to be reminded again for state officials. String of wise words by Khrisna to Arjuna can be used as reflection material. "World is the place for behavior and you will be ruled by the rule of action and behavior itself. Do not avoid the behavior, act without hoping of the result since that is your obligation, obligation is your dharm. However if your action is for your self-interest, that will lead you to sin. Free yourself from your own personal desires, show your action for people's interests, this is the only way to find happiness."

Purwokerto, January 2018 Editor in Chief,

Agus Raharjo