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Khalil-Anwar

ANWAR HAS NO BASIS TO CALL FOR DR M'S RESIGNATION

KUANTAN, Sept 19 (Bernama) -- Former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has no basis to demand for the resignation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today.

" What's Anwar's basis. He's not a member of Umno, the party which decides on Dr Mahathir's position in the party and government. Anwar is also no longer in the government," he said in a statement today.

He advised Anwar to pay attention to the allegations against him and not on other matters which does not concern him.

Addressing a gathering at Pantai Batu Buruk in Kuala Terengganu yesterday, Anwar had asked Dr Mahathir to quit as Prime Minister as he had refused to heed the advice from those around him.

Khalil said Anwar surely realised the strong support for Dr Mahathir and his leadership from Umno leaders and the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN).

Khalil said he was shocked with Anwar's move to consort with the DAP in his attempt to portray himself as an innocent party.

He likened Anwar's action to that of a "marriage of convenience."

He also refuted Anwar's claims that the local mass media was not giving him fair coverage which he enjoyed when he was deputy prime minister and Umno deputy president.

Khalil said Anwar was still given adequate coverage including on his current nationwide tour.

For instance, whatever Anwar said yesterday including his criticisms on the country's leadership under Dr Mahathir were also reported by the local media, he added.

-- BERNAMA

ROS TS