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ANWAR'S DISMISSAL FROM UMNO IS APPROPRIATE, SAYS KHALIL

KUANTAN, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- The dismissal of former Umno deputy president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the party is appropriate with what he is facing, Pahang Umno liaison chairman Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today.

He said if Anwar made his defence against allegations it would mean that it was done on a personal basis and had no connection with Umno.

"The supreme council's decision last night was in line with the fact that the problem faced by Anwar was not political," he told reporters after launching Pahang Pulp and Paper mill logo here.

Anwar was dismissed as a party member after a five-hour supreme council emergency meeting chaired by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad which ended early this morning, two days after he was sacked by the government as Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister.

Khalil said Pahang Umno had begun briefing its members on the supreme council's decision through its Members of Parliament and party leaders.

He did not expect the possibility of tension among party members in the state because so far, the explanation was well received by its members.

When asked if the dismissal would effect party unity, he said, unity among party members was still good because the problem faced by Umno was not political.

-- BERNAMA

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