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Anwar-Report

PENANG UMNO TO REPORT ACTIVITIES OF LEADERS, MEMBERS TO SUPREME COUNCIL

PULAU PINANG, Sept 15 (Bernama) -- The Pulau Pinang Umno Liaison Committee will send a report to the Supreme Council on the activities of leaders and party members opposed to the decision to expel Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from Umno.

Its deputy chairman Datuk Mohd Shariff Omar said today the committee was also gathering information on their activities in the "reform movement" launched by Anwar.

He said a meeting would be held on Friday with all Umno divisional information chiefs and secretaries to obtain information and further discuss the activities of these party members and leaders.

The meeting would also discuss the holding of information campaigns throughout the state to explain Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's decision to sack Anwar from all government posts and the Umno Supreme Council's decision to expel him from the party.

Speaking to reporters after opening a seminar on "Happy Family" organised by the Government Welfare and Sports Council here, he hoped the information campaigns could kick off next week.

On the move by some state Umno leaders and members to support Anwar's movement, Shariff, who is Deputy Chief Minister, said if they did not support the expulsion of Anwar they should resign from all posts in the party.

"We have to declare our stand. If we support the expulsion, then we have to show it...that we support. If we do not support we have to resign from all posts we are holding in the party," he said.

Anwar was head of the Penang Umno before his expulsion from the party.

On the call by Umno Youth members in the state yesterday to State Umno Youth Chief Dr Abdul Rahim Md Ghouse to resign from his post for attending Anwar's reform movement activities, Shariff said that he should indeed do that.

He said Umno Youth members made the call because the actions of Rahim Ghouse showed that he did not support the Umno Supreme Council's decision.

Shariff denied that differences of opinion among party leaders on the issue signified a split in the state Umno.

Shariff also said that he supported the suggestion by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that Umno Youth head Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi resign from his post in line with party discipline.

-- BERNAMA

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