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Terengganu assemblymen pledge support

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sun. - All State Assemblymen in Terengganu have pledged their full support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed over the removal of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from positions held in the Government and Umno.

The pledge was made after an hour-long closed door meeting between Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad and all the State Assemblymen at the State Umno headquarters yesterday evening.

Wan Mokhtar said he and Umno information chief Datuk Dr Yusof Noor briefed the assemblymen on the decision by the Umno supreme council to remove Anwar from the party.

"The decision made by the party president was clear. The briefing will enable the assemblymen to explain to members at the grassroots-level if and when they are asked about the subject," he said after the meeting.

Asked if there was any evidence produced to substantiate Anwar's removal from Government and the party during the supreme council meeting last week, Wan Mokhtar said: "We did not produce evidence because the supreme council is not a court."

On whether there was any unrest among party members, Wan Mokhtar said so far there was no such report and hoped all members would remain calm.

"Whatever action members want to take, think about the party above all else.

"We know that Anwar was groomed by the Prime Minister, but if he has done something wrong, the party will act decisively irrespective of his position," he said.

Asked if the State Umno would organise road shows to explain to the people the action taken by the Government and Umno, he said there was no need because "there is no issue and there is no disunity".

However, he said Dr Mahathir would brief 72 Umno members from Terengganu as well as representatives from other states in Kuala Lumpur on the removal of Anwar on Tuesday.

"It is best that we hear direct from Dr Mahathir."

On the proposed road show by Anwar, Wan Mokhtar said the former Deputy Prime Minister should not be emotional about his removal and that roadshows would only stifle economic recovery efforts as well as create uneasiness among the people.

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