

Ex-Keadilan **leader apologises**

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KUBANG KRIAN: Former Parti Keadilan Nasional Kubang Krian vice-chairman Che Hussein Zainal Abidin has made an open apology to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for criticising Barisan Nasional policies.

Speaking in front of a crowd of 200 outside the Keadilan office here on Thursday night, Che Hussein said he realised that

his attacks on Dr Mahathir and other Barisan leaders were unfair.

Among those present were Umno supreme council member and Melor assemblyman Datuk Zainal Abidin Abdul Kadir and Kubang Krian Umno division chief Tuan Wan Mohd Hashim Tuan Yaacob.

At the function, Che Hussein handed over Umno membership appli-

cations of 128 Keadilan members and 99 PAS members to Zainal.

He handed over a mock key to symbolise that the Keadilan office had been handed over to Umno.

Earlier, Che Hussein said the 'state's Keadilan headquarters was in a mess as the party did not pay telephone bills and staff salaries.

"The phone line was cut

and a secretary was told to leave after being paid part salary," he said.

He criticised the stand by several Keadilan and PAS national leaders, saying he was ready to debate with them or even be sued.

"I'm joining Umno of my own free will without any enticement. I have always supported the opposition and now realise I have been wrong," he said.