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Khalil-Anwar

UMNO MEMBERS CAN EXPOSE ANWAR'S WRONGDOINGS, SAYS KHALIL

KUALA TERENGGANU, Oct 31 (Bernama) -- Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob does not rule out the possibility of Umno members exposing irregularities committed by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim when he was in the government and party.

"We just have to wait...because Umno has a large membership of about 2.7 million people and they have their own experiences with Anwar...such exposures need not be referred to the Umno Supreme Council," he told reporters before meeting more than 100 RTM staff in the eastern region at RTM Kuala Terengganu today.

He said this when asked to comment Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman's statement yesterday that the Johor government was waiting for the right time to reveal irregularities allegedly committed by the former deputy prime minister.

Ghani, who claimed the state has evidence of such malpractices, was commenting on former Bank Negara assistant governor Datuk Abdul Murad Khalid's allegation that Anwar had controlled a RM3 billion slush fund maintained by his cronies.

Khalil, who is Information Minister, said Umno could not stop Ghani or other members from making such revelations.

Asked whether the Supreme Council would discuss Murad's allegation, Khalil said party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was expected to brief the council on this matter.

Supreme Council members would be keen to get clarifications on the revelation, he said.

Khalil also said he would soon expose certain things that were done by Anwar in Pahang when he (Khalil) was the Menteri Besar.

"Wait...it is not logical for me to make the revelation outside (of Pahang) when it happened in Pahang," he said.

He said the revelation by Murad could be regarded as efforts by individuals to clear the air following the opposition's campaign of lies and slander against Umno and government leaders.

He said Anwar himself had made allegations against government leaders in court, and Umno members felt that they should defend the party's good name by exposing the former deputy prime minister's misdeeds based on their own experiences with him.

"This is in line with the party's wishes for every member to go on the offensive to counter all the lies hurled by the opposition," he said.

-- BERNAMA

SBS YBY