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Shahrizat-Jealousy

DON'T BE JEALOUS OF AZALINA'S APPOINTMENT, SAYS SHARIZAT

KUALA LUMPUR, July 2 (Bernama) -- Umno members, especially the women members, should not be jealous of lawyer and activist Azalina Othman Said's appointment to the Umno supreme council, Wanita Umno vice-head Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil said today.

She said although Azalina did not hold any party post, she had contributed a lot to the party and her presence in the council would enable the aspirations of the young generation to be conveyed to the council and the party.

"How can there be jealousy in politics? Each person has her duties and we must have division of work and responsibilities as well as representatives from the young generation (in the council) to express their aspirations," she told reporters after a beach volley ball contest, here.

She said this when asked whether the appointment of Azalina, 36, had caused jealousy among the long-serving party members and leaders, especially those in the women's wing.

She said Wanita Umno had worked with Azalina for a long time and she was not a new face, having contributed a lot at the grassroot level.

"She does a lot of political work and I feel that many people admire her because she is talented in sports and the law and has an open mind. I do not dispute her appointment," she said.

Asked whether Azalina's outspokenness was acceptable to Umno, Shahrizat said "(That's) excellent and good, because that's what the people want, to voice their aspirations, and I believe that Azaline will highlight issues pertaining to the young generation."

She said that when she was a council member she had also expressed her views and thoughts.

She said Azalina's appointment was made by Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad from the list submitted by Wanita umno chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz.

-- BERNAMA

ARA JK