

29 JUN 2000

Khalil

ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE TO BUILD K-ECONOMY NATION, SAYS KHALIL

KUALA LUMPUR, June 29 (Bernama) -- Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob today urged ministry employees, being society's communicators, to upgrade knowledge and use it to mould Malaysians into a nation based on knowledge-economy (K-economy).

Given that mastery of technology formed a key production factor in a k-economy, ministry employees would have to appreciate the kind of role required of them in propagating k-economy in the country, he said.

"Knowledge communicators learned through experience is equally vital as that acquired formally," he said at the presentation of the ministry's excellent service awards to 319 staffers from throughout the country.

The function also marked Khalil's launching of the ministry's Quality Day 2000.

Khalil said for the ministry to achieve service excellence, its employees would have to consistently practise a work culture that emphasised quality work and work ethics.

"Commitment and quality leadership determine whether an organisation can achieve excellence," he said.

Also contributing towards service excellence were strategic planning and efficient management of resources, finance and information, among others, he said.

Khalil also reminded ministry staffers to accept criticisms as motivation to correct flaws while striving to enhance job quality.

Recipients of the ministry's quality awards for this year were;

* Filem Negara (best innovation);

* Department of Broadcasting/Radio Malaysia Miri (cleanest office);

* Federal Territory Information Department (best in managing meetings);

* Pahang Information Department (best in financial management); and

* Department of Broadcasting/ Radio Malaysia Melaka (best Q-team).

Responding to questions at a press conference later, Khalil, who is also Umno secretary-general, said it was up to Prime Minister and party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir to choose when to announce the 10 appointed members of the Umno Supreme Council.

"The president may announce it before or after the next council meeting," he said. The council is scheduled to meet in Ipoh on July 3.

To another question, Khalil said Umno had not received any formal application from former Keadilan vice president Marina Yusof who was reportedly planning to rejoin Umno.

"I only learned and read about Marina's differences with other Keadilan leaders through the media. A party with a structurally weak leadership, like Keadilan, will not last," he added.

-- BERNAMA

APG AHH RYN