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No info that Marina Yusoff wants to rejoin Umno, says Khalil

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob has not received any information that former Parti Keadilan Nasional vice-president Marina Yusof intends to rejoin the party.

"There is no information that Marina wants to rejoin Umno."

"All that we have followed is the differences between Marina and Keadilan leaders via Internet and media reports," he said when commenting on a question whether Marina was interested in rejoining Umno.

He said applications by former Keadilan members to rejoin the party would be treated as fresh applications and would undergo normal processing.

Stating that Umno did not face the problem of party hopping, Khalil added that there would be no conditions imposed on such applications.

He said the management committee upon receiving such applications would make its recommendations and leave it to the Supreme Council to make a decision.

"Finally, it is up to the Supreme Council on whether or not to approve such applications.

"The process will be the same as the one used for normal applications from those who have yet to join Umno and will thereby, become easier," he said.

Khalil who is also Information Minister, was speaking at a Press conference at Angkasapuri, after officiating his Ministry's Excellence Service Awards ceremony for the year 1999 and Quality Day 2000.

Asked to comment on Keadilan's future, he said the party was weak in its leadership structure and was only a temporary phenomenon.

Asked about the appointments of 10 additional candidates to the party Supreme Council, he said it was the "president's prerogative".

He said there was a possibility that party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would name the candidates before or during the next Supreme Council meeting.

On the naming of bureaus and bureau chairmen, Khalil explained that the management committee merely made recommendations and that it would be up to the Supreme Council to decide on the appointments.

"The management committee is awaiting the Supreme Council's approval," he said.

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