

**SUN 12 APR 2001**

## Abdullah brushes aside rumours of Khalil's resignation

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi brushed aside rumours today that Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaacob has resigned from the cabinet and as Umno secretary-general.

Rumours were rife in the city that Khalil tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also the Umno president, at the cabinet's weekly meeting in Putrajaya.

"No, that is not true. The investigations are not completed and we have not received anything," he told reporters after chairing the Umno management committee meeting at the party headquarters here.

It has been speculated that Khalil resigned following investi-

gations against him by a special Umno committee following complaints by Beserah assemblyman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman that Khalil misused state funds when he was menteri besar of Pahang.

Referring to the cases of former Selangor menteri besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib and former Malacca menteri besar Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik, who were told to take leave from the party when investigations were conducted against them, Abdullah said that in Khalil's case, "the investigations are not completed".

Fauzi's allegations were contained in a police report he filed two weeks ago, when he tendered his resignation as assemblyman to Pahang Menteri Besar and state Umno chairman Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob.