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Khalil-AP

REPORT ON AP'S ERRONEOUS STORY TO BE TABLED BEFORE CABINET WEDNESDAY

KUANTAN, Oct 21 (Bernama) -- A report on the erroneous story by the Associated Press (AP) which quoted Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad out of context recently will be tabled before the Cabinet on Wednesday, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today.

He said that the Cabinet, at its meeting last week, had requested him to prepare a report over the matter for the benefit of the Cabinet ministers.

"I cannot say anything until I have obtained the views of the Cabinet next week. The AP has also tendered its official apology and this will also be taken into account," he told reporters after a dialogue with the Bandar Indera Mahkota public low-cost housing task force here.

Asked by reporters whether the ministry intends to withdraw its accreditation issued to foreign correspondents who frequently produce inaccurate reports on the country, Khalil declined to comment until the Cabinet had given its views next week.

The AP on Friday apologised to Dr Mahathir over its Oct 8 story by reporter Sean Yoong in a letter signed by its Kuala Lumpur news editor Rohan Sullivan and Yoong.

On Oct 11, the AP in its story admitted that it had quoted Dr Mahathir out of context on his response to the United States-led air strikes on Afghanistan when answering a question in the Dewan Rakyat.

The erroneous story by Yoong prompted the PM's office to demand that the AP and the reporter concerned issue a correction and apologise to Dr Mahathir.

Meanwhile, Khalil, who is Member of Parliament for Kuantan, said that the problem faced by occupants of terrace houses in Bandar Indera Mahkota would be resolved soon as it involves some 2,000 residents.

He said that the problem arose following the failure of the housing developer to explain several clauses in the sale and purchase agreement to the house buyers when they were asked to sign the S & P agreement.

-- BERNAMA

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