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Khalil-Puteri

MEMBERS TO DETERMINE AZALINA'S POSITION, SAYS KHALIL

KUALA LUMPUR, June 15 (Bernama) -- It is up to members to decide on the position of Puteri Umno pro tem chief Azalina Othman Said after the movement is formalised, Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today.

"After endorsement (of the movement), there will be an election process as is the normal practice in Umno. If there are no other nominations, then she will be confirmed as the chief with the status of vice-president," he told reporters after launching the Information Ministry's Family Day here.

Puteri Umno was officially launched on Aug 3, 2000 and will be formalised as the third wing in the party, after Umno Youth and Wanita Umno, at a special general assembly next week.

Khalil also said the Umno Supreme Council would abide by whatever decision made by delegates on the fixing of the party election dates.

"Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday said that it is up to delegates to express their views. If they don't want (the election), the Supreme Council will abide by their decision," he said.

However, someone had to make a decision on the deferment of the election, whether it was the General Assembly or Supreme Council, he said.

Meanwhile, Khalil, who is Information Minister, also said RTM would abide by any directive from the Health Ministry regarding a ban on advertisements linked to cigarette brands.

"On the part of RTM, we will abide by government directives, particularly from the Health Ministry. If the Health Ministry asks us to stop such advertisements, we will," he said.

However, the withdrawal of such advertisements would be done in stages because some of the advertisers had entered into contracts with the mass media, he said.

Health Director-General Tan Sri Dr Mohamad Taha Arif had been reported as saying that all advertisements linked to cigarettes or sponsorship by cigarette companies would be disallowed by the middle of next year at the earliest.

-- BERNAMA

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