



Hishammuddin (right) and Khairy Jamaluddin listening intently to a question during a Press conference after an Umno Youth executive committee meeting in June.

Khairy tour given nod by Umno Youth

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth gave Khairy Jamaluddin its blessing to go around the country and answer the allegations hurled against him. And now that he had done so, it was up to party members to analyse the explanation, said movement chief Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hessein. For those who do not want to listen, it will not bring much of a difference. Therefore, why expend much time to provide an explanation to them?" he said.

Over the past few months, Khairy has been the target of some allegations, including that he was wielding too much power in the Government and that he had taken a second wife;

Hishammuddin said that he was certain that people will realise that Khairy's explanations were truthful.

Asked whether former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was a threat to the Barisan Nasional in the next general election, Hishammuddin said he did not think so.

He said the opposition and dissatisfaction voiced by Dr Mahathir relating to government policies and projects would not cause a rift in the party.

He said it was important that all leaders go to the ground to "explain to those who want to listen", adding that he held to the principle that the party was more important than the individual.

He spoke to reporters after paying his last respects to Puan Sri Rosaline Yeoh, wife of YTL Corporation managing director

Tan Sri Francis Yeoh, at their residence in Jalan Dalaman Tunku, Bukit Tunku, here.

Hishammuddin, who is Education Minister, was also asked about Khairy's statement recently that he was prepared to step down from the Umno Youth post if he was considered a liability to the movement.

He said "this is not something strange" but a principle for leaders of the party to resign voluntarily if they had become a burden or undermined party credibility.

It was important that all leaders go to the ground to explain to those who want to listen.

Hishammuddin