

PKR Youth Chief Apologises To Jamil Khir
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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 8 (Bernama) -- Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom has withdrawn his defamation suit against Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) Youth chief Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin following an apology by the latter.

Shamsul Iskandar, in a statement read before High Court judge Datuk Nor Bee Ariffin in chambers today, said he regretted making the remarks in connection with Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's 'qazaf' (criminal defamation), which had been misunderstood and caused confusion, resulting in a negative perception of Jamil Khir.

He apologised to Jamil Khir for the confusion and misperception that had be caused by his remarks.

Lawyer Adnan Seman@Abdullah, representing Jamil Khir, when met by reporters, said Judge Nor Bee recorderd the terms of the settlement in the presence of Shamsul Iskandar's lawyer, Fahda Nur Ahmad Kamar.

Meanwhile, Jamil Khir, speaking to reporters outside the court, said the apology by Shamsul had cleared him of the negative perception.

"I feel that in conjunction with the month of Syawal, the accusations that had been hurled against me, when he apologised, it is apt that I receive it in good faith.

"The summon case has been resolved amicably in this raya mood. We negotiated and both parties agreed to the terms of settlement and both parties have no plans to drag this matter further," he added.

Jamil Khir had filed the suit in May 2012, claiming that Shamsul Iskandar had issued defamatory statements against him on his (Jamil Khir's) comment pertaining to the oath made by Anwar in his sodomy case which was aired live by RTM in a forum "Pengurusan Persepsi" (Management of Perception) on March 30, 2012.

The minister in the Prime Minister's Department claimed that the defamatory words implied that he was a person who opposed implementation of Syariah laws on "qazaf" (criminal defamation), as well as abused his power to prevent the qazaf application by Anwar.

Jamil Khir also claimed that on March 31, 2012, he had issued a statement to the media seeking an apology from Shamsul Iskandar and for him to withdraw the statement, but the defendant refused to do so and challenged him to a debate.

He claimed that Shamsul Iskandar repeated the alleged defamatory words at a 'ceramah'

(political talk) organised by the Bukit Katil PKR Branch at Taman Sin Hoe, Bukit Baru, Melaka on April 1, 2012.

Jamil Khir claimed that his reputation and image had been tarnished because the defamatory words were aired live on TV1 by RTM, as well as uploaded on YouTube and websites, including the defendant's blog at shamsuliskandar.wordpress.com.

He had sought an injunction to prevent the defendant from further issuing, publishing or distributing the defamatory words, orally or in print, as well as general and aggravated damages, interests, costs and other relief deemed fit by the court.

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