

Khairy: Critics 'like monkeys shaking the tree'

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REMBAU: The Umno Youth deputy chief yesterday likened the people who slandered him as "monkeys shaking the tree".

Khairy Jamaluddin said that despite answering allegations against him in Kelantan two days ago, some people were still not satisfied.

"They say: 'If there is no wind, how can a tree sway'. It is difficult to answer, but sometimes, we can see tree branches moving without wind. Does it really happen or there's a monkey shaking them."

He said he regretted having to answer trivial matters about his family at Umno meetings which should be the place to discuss national and global issues.

Khairy said that he had spoken to five Umno divisions about the various accusations levelled against him and felt that it was time to move on to more important matters.

He was speaking to reporters after the simultaneous opening of the Rembau Umno Youth, Wanita and Puteri delegates conferences by Negri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan.

He said that as long as he was the number two in Umno Youth, he would continue to listen to views from the grassroots.

"What's important is Umno Youth members. If they accept my explanation, it is good enough for me. Not that I want to satisfy those who accuse me," he said.

Since Friday, Khairy has denied a host of accusations, from marrying popular actress Maya Karin and his alleged role as the power behind the throne.

Meanwhile, Federal Territory Umno Youth called on irresponsible people who hurled allegations against Khairy to stop doing so immediately.

"The movement considers stinging attacks on Khairy as efforts to undermine Umno Youth," its head Datuk Mohamad Norza Zakaria said.

He said the FT Umno Youth supported Umno Youth chief Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein and Khairy as the most senior leaders in the movement and described them as "the country's most important asset".