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ANWAR TO MEET MTUC TOMORROW

PETALING JAYA, March 5 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will meet Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) leaders tomorrow to hear their views on the Employees' Provident Fund.

He said he was giving MTUC an opportunity to meet him since the congress heeded his advice to meet with the EPF management for clarification on its 7.5 percent dividend payment for 1995.

"Since the advice was given and they met with EPF, I think I should give the opportunity to meet to get the views of MTUC," he told reporters after opening an international conference on Islam in Southeast Asia here.

The MTUC had earlier refused to meet with the EPF management to hear its clarification on the 1995 dividend rate, which was 0.5 percent lower than that paid for 1994, if Anwar, also the Finance Minister, was not present.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who criticised MTUC for their arrogant attitude, said Anwar should not meet them.

Yesterday, the MTUC agreed to meet the EPF management without Anwar present.

To MTUC's suggestion that regulations government EPF investments be eased, Anwar said he would clarify the matter tomorrow.

"I will explain... much assistance and aid, including distribution of shares, were given (to EPF) and the matter will be given further consideration," he added. -- BERNAMA

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