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Anwar-Knowledge

DON'T BELITTLE THE ROLE OF RELIGION AND CULTURE, SAYS ANWAR

IPOH, Dec 14 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim reminded leaders in the country against belittling the role of religion and culture in efforts towards development in the field of science and technology.

"We cannot accept western civilisation which neglects religion and culture purely for the sake of development.

"We can't run away from educational expansion especially through the multimedia but should equip the people to hold firmly to religion and culture," he said at a dinner function organised by the Perak Umno Liaison Committee here tonight.

"Do not ridicule or belittle culture and religion or we will face disaster in future," he said.

Anwar reminded leaders that they must be capable of creating new ideas towards developing the economy, science and technology to enable the people to participate together in the development.

He said Malaysia's efforts towards becoming a multimedia centre was increasingly gaining international recognition.

Anwar said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would chair a meeting in San Francisco next month which would be attended by renown leaders in the multimedia industry.

However, he cautioned that the government feared that in the desire to develop information technology, people in the rural areas might be left behind if no efforts were taken to educate them on computer information.

In this context, he praised the Perak state government which supplied computers linked to the Internet to all assemblymen in the state.

He would suggest to the other state governments to emulate the move by the Perak government.

Also present at the dinner was Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Perak Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib and Umno divisional leaders in Perak. -- BERNAMA

LAT AO