

24 OCT 1997

Anwar-Invitation

AMPI INVITES ANWAR TO TALK ON CURRENCY CRISIS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 24 (Bernama) -- The Indonesian Youth Modernisation Movement (Ampi) has invited Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to deliver a talk on Southeast Asia's prevailing currency and economic crises.

Ampi's vice-head Henry Indera Utama said today Anwar was invited in his capacity as the Finance Minister.

"We will hear Anwar's views on Malaysia and Indonesia's current economic downturn," he said at a joint news conference with Umno Youth vice-head Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein here.

Anwar and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad are highly respected in Indonesia, said Utama.

He said Anwar's views on these issues would be telecast over Indonesian television education channel.

Hishammuddin said he would extend Ampi's invitation to Anwar and discuss it at the Umno Youth executive council meeting tomorrow.

Hishammuddin, who is also Primary Industries Deputy Minister said there should be efforts to find ways to resolve the economic woes and dispel notions of strained ties between Malaysia and Indonesia.

He said the depreciation of the ringgit and rupiah should prompt entrepreneurs and corporate figures in both countries to double their efforts in bilateral trade and other socio-economic collaboration, Hishammuddin said.

"Umno Youth and Ampi call on both nations to cooperate and come out with a wider agenda to exploit the commodities' industry instead of competing with each other," Hishammuddin said.

Both countries, rich in oil palm, rubber and timber, had the expertise to improve the commodities' market using local resources, Hishammuddin added.

Earlier, he and Utama held talks at the ministry on wide-ranging issues affecting both countries including the haze problem and the recent 19th SEA Games in Jakarta.-- BERNAMA

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