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ANWAR DESCRIBES RESIGNATION RUMOUR AS SLANDEROUS

BUKIT MERTAJAM, Aug 31 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim today described the rumour that he has resigned as the finance minister as slanderous.

He said the rumour was yet another attempt to cast unhealthy political suspicions.

"I met Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday about the rumour," he told reporters after attending a wedding party at Kampung Sama Gagah, Permatang Pauh, here.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir denied that Anwar was resigning as finance minister and dismissed talk that the current decline in share prices on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange was due to the resignation rumour.

The Prime Minister said he was not taking over the finance ministry although that was what those spreading the rumour were suggesting.

Anwar said the two of them discussed issues relating to the the country's economy frequently.

He said it was natural for the Prime Minister to get more involved in economic issues in view of the increasing attack on the region's financial markets of late. -- BERNAMA

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