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Anwar-residence

ANWAR SEEKS EXPLANATION FOR RM5-MILLION RENOVATION

LANGKAWI, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim today said he will ask for explanation on the reportedly RM5-million renovation to the Selangor Menteri Besar's official residence in Shah Alam.

" I just read (a news report)..I'll get the feedback from the Menteri Besar (Datuk Abu Hassan Omar) and his explanation. I'll issue a statement after that", said Anwar, who is also Finance Minister.

Reporters approached him on the matter here after Anwar visited Galeria Perdana which displays official gifts and souvenirs presented to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at Kilim near here.

Anwar said he only read about the renovation from a newspaper report today and had not been informed about it.

"Its only proper that I ask the Menteri Besar first before making any comment", he said.

He spent about 30 minutes at the gallery accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Ismail alongwith the prime minister's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali and National Unity and Social Development Datin Paduka Hajah Zaleha Ismail.

According to a front page news report today the Selangor government spent RM5 million to renovate the Menteri Besar's residence in Bukit Megawati, Shah Alam.

The report quoted state executive councillor Datuk Zainal as informing the state legislative assembly yesterday that an allocation under the Office of the Menteri Besar and the state secretary was used for the renovation.

The official residence was renovated upon recommendations by the Public Works Department and endorsement by the state executive council.

The news report said the residence was built in 1974 and occupied by past menteris besar Datuk Hormat Rafie till 1982, Datuk Ahmad Razali Mohamad Ali (1982-1986) and Tan Sri Muhammad Mohd Taib (from 1986 till April 1997).-- BERNAMA

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