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SOROS: DON'T LINK WITH MYANMAR ISSUE, SAYS KIT SIANG

KUALA LUMPUR, July 27 (Bernama) -- DAP Secretary-General Lim Kit Siang today said the issue of financier George Soros as the man said to responsible for the destabilising the Ringgit and other South East Asian currencies recently should not be linked with the attempt to block the Myanmar's admission into Asean.

He said the matter must be differentiated and if not "it would make him more of a hero in the western world."

Lim said the matter of the destabilising currencies would still not be addressed properly by relating Soros's so-called intervention in the regional currency markets with Myanmar's admission into Asean.

Lim, who is also Parliamentary Opposition Leader, was asked to comment on reports that Soros, through a philanthropic organisation he started -- the Open Society Institute aimed to promote democracy overseas -- was said to be the man behind the currency speculation affecting Asean states.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday named Soros as the person responsible although Soros Fund Management (SFM) denied the intervention in currency markets was to punish certain governments which supported Myanmar's admission into Asean. -- BERNAMA

RAZ ABG