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Anwar-tour

ANWAR PUTS OFF REFORM TOUR

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Bernama) -- Former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has postponed going on a nation-wide tour to give his side of the story pertaining to his sacking and kick off a movement for reforms.

He originally planned to return to his home state Pulau Pinang but said today he had called off the trip because "I have business which is unsettled."

Anwar, who had said that he was facing imminent arrest, was speaking to reporters at his house at Jalan Setiamurn 1, Bukit Damansara before lunch time.

He said that so far he had not been asked by the police to go to any police station to have his statement taken.

Asked whether he intended to see Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Anwar said he had no plans at the moment to see Dr Mahathir but added " I still like the Prime Minister as a person."

Anwar was removed from the Cabinet on Wednesday and the following day was expelled from Umno, of which he was deputy president.

Earlier, at a separate press conference Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Noor said police had received reports that Anwar had tried to interfere in police investigations into a book which implicated the former Deputy Prime Minister in a sex scandal.

The reports also accused him of intimidating witnesses and tampering with evidence.

Asked about this, Anwar, who has described all the allegations against him as fabrications, said: " I wouldn't be suprised if they add 20 more ..."

On Rahim's statement that he (Anwar) had refused to provide a blood sample for a DNA test to disprove allegations that he had fathered an illegitimate child, Anwar said the IGP should remain professional.

"What was requested was the blood sample of Azmin, his wife and the child," he said.

Anwar had been accused of having an affair with his private secretary Azmin Ali's wife, resulting in an illegitimate child.

"If you want, you can ask him (Rahim) to come and take my blood sample," said Anwar.

-- Bernama

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