



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim presenting a 'tausiah' after Friday prayers at Masjid Jamek Sri Petaling in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

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# PM: STABLE INDONESIA, THAILAND KEY TO UNITY

**Asean's strength depends on political stability of its member states, says Anwar**

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**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said political stability in Indonesia and Thailand is vital for Asean's unity and Malaysia's bilateral ties with its neighbours. The Asean chairman said In-

donesian President Prabowo Subianto told him during a meeting in Beijing that the situation in Jakarta was improving.

"We pray for the best for Indonesia, not only as a fellow Asean member, but also as a close friend and family," he said after Friday prayers at Masjid Jamek Sri Petaling here yesterday.

Widespread protests have erupted in Indonesia due to public dissatisfaction over rising living costs and lawmakers' allowances.

Tensions escalated after a motorcycle rideshare driver was killed during a demonstration, leading to clashes with security forces.

On Thailand, Anwar hoped the process of forming a new government would be expedited,

adding that Malaysia was ready to engage with Bangkok once political stability was restored.

"Asean's strength depends on the stability of its member states. As soon as everything is in order in Thailand, I will reach out to their leaders immediately."

Thailand's Constitutional Court dismissed Paetongtarn Shinawatra as prime minister on Aug 29 after only a year in power, finding that her conduct had breached ministerial ethics.

Rival factions are negotiating to nominate a new leader, with an election expected within months to resolve the political deadlock.

The House of Representatives was set to convene yesterday to deliberate on the prime ministerial nominations.