

Bar Council Asked To State Views On Anwar's Action In Court
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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 25 (Bernama) -- The Bar Council was today asked to state its views on the action of Opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who has chosen to give his evidence from the dock in his ongoing sodomy trial.

Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Datuk Hamzah Zainuddin told Bernama he was curious to know what was the Bar Council's stand on the matter.

Anwar chose to give his evidence from the dock as his defence on the charge of sodomising his former aide, Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan, began on Monday.

High Court judge Datuk Mohamad Zabidin Mohd Diah said Anwar had three options -- to give his evidence from the witness stand which means he can be cross-examined by the prosecution, to give his evidence from the dock which means he cannot be cross-examined by the prosecution but in coming up with a decision the court takes into account the fact that the prosecution has not cross-examined the accused, or to elect to remain silent.

Puteri Umno chief Datuk Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin said Anwar should have the courage to give a sworn testimony and allow himself to be cross-examined by the prosecution.

"If it is true that he is being victimised, why should he be scared?" she said.

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