

04 DEC 1998

Mohtar-Summons

AG FILES SUMMONS TO SET ASIDE ANWAR'S SUIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 4 (Bernama) -- The Attorney-General's Chambers has applied to set aside Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's suit challenging his dismissal as Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister.

Special Assistant to the Attorney-General, Shamsuddin Hassan, said the "Summons in Chambers" was filed last Tuesday according to Order 18 Rule 19(1)(a),(b) and (d) Rules of the High Court 1980.

In a statement today, he said they were seeking to set aside Anwar's suit because it did not disclose any reasonable cause of action and was frivolous, vexatious and an abuse of the court process.

He said the grounds of application were contained in the supporting affidavit filed by Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali and Private Secretary to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Haji Ja'apar Wahab.

The affidavit, among other things, says the removal of Anwar from the two posts has been consented to by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong who has made an order to delete Anwar's name from the post of Deputy Prime Minister and to replace Anwar's name with that of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the finance portfolio.

Shamsuddin said the application would be heard on Jan 25 next year.

Last Nov 13, Anwar, who was removed from the two posts on Sept 2, filed a suit against Dr Mahathir and the government of Malaysia to challenge the legality of his dismissal.

In his suit filed through Messrs Karpal Singh and Co, Anwar is seeking a declaration that his dismissal from the two posts was unconstitutional.

He is also asking the court to declare that he is still a member of the Cabinet and to award him cost and other reliefs it deems appropriate.

-- BERNAMA

RA YBY