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Chandra wants to set aside contempt notice

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Parti Keadilan Nasional deputy president Dr Chandra Muzaffar will file an application to set aside a notice issued to him to show cause why he should not be cited for contempt.

His lawyer Karpal Singh, speaking to reporters at the Federal Court building today, said the application would be filed as soon as possible.

He said Chandra accepted service of the notice at 3.25pm today at the High Court from deputy registrar Rozilah Salleh.

Karpal said he had advised Chandra to come in person and accept the notice instead of the police looking for him in order to serve the notice.

Yesterday, the High Court ordered Chandra to show cause as to why he should not be cited for contempt over a statement purportedly made by him.

Judge Datuk Arifin Jaka fixed Aug 16 for him to appear before the court to explain a statement which carried Chandra's name.

Arifin had said in the face of the statement's last paragraph, it appeared that its author was "casting serious aspersions" directly on the integrity of the court.

The paragraph reads: "It is a shame that elements in the police force, in the Attorney-General's Chambers, in the courts and in the media are prepared to be subservient tools in this massive conspiracy hatched by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and his cohorts".

Arifin is hearing the trial of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and his adopted brother Sukma Darmawan Sasmitaat Madja who are jointly charged with sodomising former driver Azizan Abu Bakar.

Sukma also faces a second charge of abetting Anwar in sodomising Azizan.

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