

13 JAN 1999

Anwar-Writ

WRIT OF SUMMONS SERVED AT ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- Counsel for Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who is suing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, former Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Noor and the government for the injuries he suffered while in police custody, today served the writ of summons on them at the Attorney-General's Chambers.

Karpal Singh told reporters here that Attorney-General Tan Sri Mohtar Abdullah accepted the writs on their behalf.

Anwar, 51, the former deputy prime minister and former finance minister, filed a suit against Dr Mahathir, in his capacity as former home minister, Rahim and the government, on Jan 8, seeking exemplary damages and aggravated damages, claiming that he suffered trauma, humiliation, distress and indignity during his detention.

He is also seeking other costs and relief deemed fit by the court.

In his statement of claim, Anwar said that he was arrested on Sept 20, last year at his residence at about 10pm and was taken to Bukit Aman and placed in a cell.

He claimed that at between 11pm and 11.30pm, as he was being blindfolded and handcuffed from behind, he was ordered to stand up and suddenly he felt a hard punch on his left eye and forehead.

He also claimed that he was hit on the head and beaten severely on the left side of his neck and slapped several times severely until blood ran down from his nose and mouth.

On Jan 5, Mohtar, in a press statement said that a report of the police special team investigating the alleged assault on Anwar, showed that the police were fully responsible for Anwar's injuries.

He however said that the investigation of the special team was not comprehensive and did not identify the person or persons responsible for the injuries.

Following the statement, Rahim resigned on Friday, taking full responsibility.

The head of the police investigating team, SAC II Mat Zain Ibrahim, said that the investigation would be completed by the weekend after statements had been recorded from nine senior police officers including Rahim, Deputy Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Norian Mai, Datuk Mohamed Ghazali Yacub (Director of Internal Security and Public Order), Datuk Yaacob Mohamed Amin (Criminal Investigation Department Director) and Datuk Meor Chek Hussein Mahayuddin (Special Operations Commander).

-- BERNAMA

KLS AHH RM