

Anwar has

to pay

Dr M

RM85,280

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri **Anwar** Ibrahim has to pay **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad RM85,284.80** in costs for the defamation suit that he had brought against the Prime Minister.

High Court deputy registrar **Rozilah Salleh** awarded the amount to **Dr Mahathir** in chambers yesterday.

The **RM100mil** suit was struck out by Justice **Dr R. K. Nathan** two years ago.

Anwar had sued **Dr Mahathir** over statements made during a press conference at the Prime Minister's office on **Sept 22, 1998**.

In his **defence**, **Dr Mahathir** said the words complained of were published in his capacity as the Prime Minister of Malaysia on an occasion of qualified privilege.

On **Aug 30, 1999**, Justice **Dr Nathan** threw out the suit on the grounds that **Anwar's** claim was "obviously unsustainable" and that his suit was frivolous, vexatious and an abuse of the court process.

The Court of Appeal had on **Dec 9**, last year, upheld the High Court's grounds.