

Anwar to appeal to Federal Court

Nst 10 JAN 2001

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has applied for leave to appeal to the Federal Court the dismissal of his appeal by the Court of Appeal relating to the striking out of his RM100 million defamation suit against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The notice of motion was filed by the legal firm of Karpal Singh & Company at the Court of Appeal registry this afternoon.

In his supporting affidavit, Karpal Singh, among others, said the Court of Appeal's decision raised points of general principle which had not been decided by the Federal Court before.

Anwar's suit was struck out by the High Court on Aug 30, 1999, as a preliminary issue without going for a full trial.

The Court of Appeal upheld the High Court's decision last Dec 9.

In striking out the suit, High Court judge Datuk R.K. Nathan, who awarded costs to Dr Mahathir, had ruled that Anwar's claim was "obviously unsustainable".

Anwar filed his suit on Jan 25 last year claiming Dr Mahathir had, on Sept 22, 1998, "falsely and maliciously" spoken to local and foreign reporters accusing him of committing immoral acts.