

10 OCT 2002

Anwar-Bankruptcy

MAHATHIR'S LAWYERS TRIED TO SERVE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE ON ANWAR - NAIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's lawyer said he was informed by the Sungai Buloh prison authorities that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's solicitors attempted to serve a bankruptcy notice on Anwar today.

Counsel Sankaran Nair, in a statement, quoted Anwar as saying that he could not accept service of the notice "as a matter of principle".

When contacted, a member of Adnan Sundra & Low, the law firm that represented Dr Mahathir, said she had no comments to make.

Anwar was ordered on April 26 to pay costs of RM35,381 to Dr Mahathir for his unsuccessful appeal at the Court of Appeal against the High Court's decision to strike out his RM100 million libel suit against the prime minister.

Anwar filed the suit in January 1999 claiming that Dr Mahathir had lied and had malicious intention when he told a news conference at the Prime Minister's Department that he (Anwar) had committed an immoral act.

He is currently serving a total of 15 years' jail for corrupt practice and sodomy.

Nair, speaking at press conference today, said that in a letter dated Sept 5 2002, Adnan Sundra & Low had on Sept 5 written to Karpal Singh & Co (who are also Anwar's lawyers) demanding for the legal costs.

Nair said Dr Mahathir's solicitors had also written to say their client did not wish to proceed with the High Court and the Federal Court legal costs.

Anwar had been ordered to pay RM85,284.80 as costs for the proceedings before the High Court, and another RM18,489 as costs for the proceedings at the Federal Court.

The Federal Court had on Feb 23 last year dismissed with costs Anwar's application for leave to appeal against the Court of Appeal's decision.

-- BERNAMA

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