

Dr M files suit against Najib and gov't over forex RCI

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Former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad today filed an originating summons against the six members of the Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCI) over the report on the foreign exchange losses in the 1990s, as it is described to be incomplete.

He named all six members of the RCI namely Mohd Sidek Hassan, Kamaludin Md Said, Tajuddin Atan, Saw Choon Boon, K Pushpanathan and Yusof Ismail, along with Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, the cabinet and the government as defendants.

The suit was filed by the law firm of Haniff Khatri at the High Court in Kuala Lumpur.

Mahathir is seeking a declaration that the RCI is not valid in law and is unacceptable as it does not include all the witness statements or testimonies of those who had testified, including the written or oral requests in the form of transcripts or video recording and the submissions made by the lawyers.

He is also seeking for the costs of the suit to be borne by the defendants.

Mahathir had sent a letter of demand on Dec 4 claiming that the 495-page report did not include the transcript of all the witnesses, the submissions and evidence. He had also given the RCI a **deadline** of Dec 8 to include all these in the report.

The originating summons stated that the former premier considers the RCI as invalid and incomplete without those documents being appended to the final report dated Oct 13 this year.

These include the transcripts of the witnesses giving evidence or video recordings which are not appended in the report, all applications made by the various parties, and evidence in the form of documentation were also not included.

Mahathir's lawyer Haniff Khatri Abdulla (*photo*) had previously **told** *Malaysiakini* that "the report contained half-baked stories which are just to further the conniving and dishonest intentions of the ruling party".

The RCI report was tabled on the last day of Parliament's sitting and it concluded that Bank Negara lost RM31.5 billion due to speculation in the forex market between 1992 and 1994.

Among others, it also **blamed** Mahathir and his then deputy Anwar Ibrahim for withholding information about the losses from the cabinet and recommended an investigation against them.

The report also said Mahathir and Anwar had likely abetted Nor Mohamed Yakcop, who was then in charge of Bank Negara's forex operations.

Following that, a police report was **lodged** by Yusof, who is the RCI secretary, and investigations are already underway.

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