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SLIM CHANCE FOR CENSURED UMNO MEMBERS

KUALA LUMPUR, March 4 (Bernama) -- Umno members who have been disciplined for serious offences can only submit their appeals for reinstatement three years after serving their "disciplinary sentences".

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight the Umno supreme council stood firm in its decision not to allow them to appeal before the three-year period.

The serious offences included supporting opposition candidates in the general election, using money and abusing their position in party elections, he told reporters after chairing the council meeting, here.

On Feb 27 the Umno Management and Disciplinary Committee decided to leave it to the supreme council to decide on the status of former Umno Youth exco member Tajuddin Abdul Rahman who was said to have rejoined Umno by applying as a former Parti Melayu Semangat 46 member.

Umno secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik had earlier said that although the membership applications could be made through former S46 branches, the applications of those who had been disciplined must be scrutinised. -- BERNAMA

ARA JK