

28 SEP 2001

Umno-Discipline

13 UMNO MEMBERS FOUND GUILTY OF BREACHING PARTY ETHICS

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 28 (Bernama) -- Thirteen Umno members including two assemblymen have been found guilty by the Disciplinary Board of breaching party ethics during the last divisional elections.

Four of them including three divisional heads will not be eligible for election or appointment to any post in the party under Clause 6.2.2 of the Umno Constitution at branch, division or Supreme Council for one term effective Sept 14 this year.

They are Benut Assemblyman, Salehon Sengot who is also deputy head of the Sungai Benut Division, Jelutong Division head Mohd Noor Hussain, Silam Division head Datuk Mohd Yusof Amat Jamlee and the head of the Bandau Division Jelani Hamdan.

Assemblyman for Selat Klang, Datuk Zainal @ Zakaria Md. Deros who is also Klang Division head was found guilty and was issued with a warning under Clause 20.9 (a) of the Umno Constitution, Board Chairman Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen told reporters at the Umno Headquarters here.

Other members issued with similar warnings are Muhamad Fauzi Daud (Hulu Langat Branch committee member), Fauziah Abdullah Sani (Petaling Jaya Selatan Divisional Committee member), Wan Amizan Abdul Razak (Jerantut Umno Division Youth head)

Also warned were Mohamad Jalil (Sungai Benut Division Youth head), Onn Mohd Yasin (Sungai Benut Division Vice head) Norman Atan (Sungai Benut Division Committee member), Rubi Jaafar (Sungai Benut ordinary member) and Rositah @ Rotina Ekol (Bandau Division Committee member).

"The Disciplinary Board took a month to arrive at this decision and 51 others were found not guilty," he said.

He said those issued with warnings were guilty in the legal term but in the course of the proceedings of the case, the tribunal felt it justified to issue them with warnings.

Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said generally cases involving misconduct and breach of ethics had been resolved but there could be one or two cases which had not been finalised.

"This is in line with the Supreme Council directive that the Disciplinary Board only entertain cases reported within one month of the divisional conference," he said.

Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had previously said that State Umno Chiefs would handle all matters in the Umno Division whose head had been found guilty by the Disciplinary Board for breaching party ethics during the divisional elections.

Dr Mahathir had said that the State Umno heads manage the affairs of the division until appeal, if any, had been disposed off.

Replying to a question, Rithauddeen said the suspension was for one term for if it was stated as three years (period for one term) then problems would crop up in the future.

"Say if the Supreme Council decides to hold the next party election at divisional and branch level in early 2004 and hence if the suspension is stated at three years, those involved cannot contest," he said.

On the board's previous decision to suspend the guilty ones for three years and not for one term, he said this matter would be considered by the Supreme Council to enable the relevant members to take part in the election.

He said the members found guilty could appeal to the independent

secretariat.

The case would then be turned over to the Supreme Council which was the Appeals Board.

Umno previously announced that the independent secretariat would be chaired by Datuk Zuki Kamaluddin.

-- BERNAMA

SHS MFJ AAM