

# Umno upholds suspension of 10

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Five cleared, 10 get penalties reduced on appeal

By **Shahriza Embi**

**KUALA LUMPUR, Sat:** The Umno Supreme Council today upheld the punishment meted out to 10 party members found guilty of breaching party rules by the party disciplinary board in last year's divisional elections.

The 10 were among 27 members who appealed to the appeals secretariat after being found guilty by the board.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the 10 will have to relinquish all their party and government posts during their suspension period.

"However, their corporate posts will not be affected," he told a news conference after chairing the supreme council meeting here.

Apart from the 10, the supreme council has also decided that another 10 members will have their suspension period reduced, and five are freed of all charges against them.

"The allegations against the five were very small and they did not deserve the warning they received from the board earlier as they were not guilty," he said.

Mahathir, who is also the prime minister, however, declined to give any names and did not elaborate on the reduction of suspension period for the 10 others.

He also did not reveal whether any of the 27 members were division

heads or whether they hold any government posts.

"Those freed from the allegations will be notified by letters," he said, adding that the five can then openly announce their innocence.

Mahathir also explained that the Youth, Wanita and Puteri wings are three separate entities, and that a member of one wing can not be a member of another.

He said if a member wishes to

contest for a post, he or she may only do so within his or her movement and not in another movement.

"However, members of all three wings can contest Umno posts, be it at branch or division level, or even at the supreme council," he said.

On the Ketari by-election, Mahathir named Pahang Menteri Besar Tan Sri Adnan Yaakob, who is also state BN chairman, as the election director.