

**Justice delayed, so 10 change plea to 'guilty'**  
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Ten Pakatan Rakyat members have changed their plea to 'guilty', to an amended charge of taking part in an illegal gathering outside the Kamunting Detention Centre in Perak in 2001.

Their change of mind was said to be prompted by the lengthy wait for the trial to be heard.

In the intervening period, nine of the original 38 accused and a police inspector have died, while eight of the nine lawyers have withdrawn from the case.

The 38 had gathered on July 15, 2001 to demand the abolition of the Internal Security Act. They were arrested and charged with unlawful assembly under Section 27(5)(a) of the Police Act 1967.

Defence lawyer Saiful Izham Ramli told the magistrate today that the 10 - whose charge was amended to Section 145 of the Penal Code - had only been involved in a peaceful demonstration.

He requested the court to consider imposing a fine not exceeding RM500, to which DPP Hamdan Hamzah did not object.

Magistrate Rahni Kartini Abdul Rahim fined them RM500 each or two months' jail in default. All 10 paid the fine.

They are Mior Johari Mior Abu Bakar, Radzuan Abdul Samad, Mohd Zairil Hairi Zainuddin, Ma'Mor Yahya, Seok Loy, Mohamad Lokman Mohamad Ali, Azmi Hashim, Abdul Mayid Ahmad, Apipah Uri and Aziza Jaafar, the wife of Kuala Kelang PAS assemblyperson Shaari Sungip.

The remaining 19 accused will have their case mentioned on Nov 23

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