

# Kedah Umno to investigate

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**ALOR STAR:** Kedah Umno will investigate Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's claim of bribery during the Kubang Pasu Umno division meeting.

Dr Mahathir lost when contesting a delegate's post on Saturday.

Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said Dr Mahathir must submit proof of the party disciplinary committee to back his claim.

"He must submit proof; without any proof the issue will not be further discussed," said

the Kedah Umno chief after chairing the state executive council meeting yesterday.

Mahdzir said this when asked to comment on the order given by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to Mahdzir and also Kubang Pasu Umno division chief Datuk Mohd Johari Baharom to investigate Dr Mahathir's claim of bribery that led to his defeat in the Sept 9 contest.

Dr Mahathir, who polled ninth among 15 candidates, alleged that delegates were

given a brown envelope containing the list of chosen delegates, together with RM200.

Mahdzir said Dr Mahathir should not make such a claim if he could not provide evidence.

He said the Kubang Pasu Umno division's delegates had made their own decision during the contest.

Mahdzir also refuted the claim that Kedah civil servants were involved in conducting campaigns during the Kubang Pasu meeting.

Meanwhile, in Putrajaya, Umno Youth exco member Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir alleged that some delegates of the Kubang Pasu Umno meeting on Saturday received more than RM200 to vote for the seven favoured divisional candidates for the Umno general assembly.

In fact, he claimed they received between RM500 and RM1,000.

"I believe bribery happened in Kubang Pasu. Some of the delegates told me the night before the meeting that the

RM200 was part payment to make sure those listed as the favoured candidates were chosen," he told *The Star* yesterday.

"Some of the delegates received money before the meeting, some during and some after. I advised them to lodge a report, but it is easier said than done."

Mukhriz said he would encourage any of the division delegates who had evidence to lodge a report to the board, adding that no party

leader should simply dismiss any allegation of money politics.

When asked why he was elected as one of the seven delegates to the November assembly, Mukhriz said division delegates wanted to send a message that they wanted him to be a delegate despite "the nonsense."

"Last year, I was number one without any campaigning. But this time, I was totally overwhelmed by the intense campaigning."