

**Election Petition Appeals To Be Disposed Of On Time - CJ  
Bernama  
26 Sept, 2013**

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 26 (Bernama) -- Chief Justice Tun Arifin Zakaria has given an assurance that election petition appeals nationwide at the Federal Court would be disposed of on time.

He said all related appeals featuring similar issues would be combined and heard at single hearings.

"Yes, (election petitions) can be disposed of on time... I've been told that we're going to combine all related appeals where the issues are similar, in a single hearing," he told reporters after launching a book, here, Thursday.

He was asked whether the apex court could dispose of the appeals within six months as more than 60 election petitions nationwide had been brought up before the court following the May 5 general election.

Elaborating on the new measure, he said: "Hence, we'll have three or five cases in one hearing and all parties can address (the court), and we would make a decision binding.

"In this manner, there will not be inconsistencies when one panel decides this way or another."

On Wednesday, the first appeal of the election petition for the Machang parliamentary seat was brought before the Federal Court.

To another question, Justice Arifin said parties who were not satisfied with the quantum of costs imposed by the Election Court could also file an appeal.

Noting that the quantum was subjected to the court's discretion, he said: "Anyway, they (can) appeal if they want, even on costs."

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=980942>