

Rahmat told me earlier of wish to resign: PM

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — The Prime Minister today confirmed he was consulted on Datuk Mohamed Rahmat's decision to resign from the Cabinet and as Malaysia's Ambassador to Indonesia.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said **Datuk Mohamed** met him on **Oct 10 to notify** him of his intention to resign from the Cabinet early next year and as Ambassador at the end of this month.

"He indicated to me he wants to resign from both posts because he has served many years in the Government," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said at **the RMAF base on his re-**

turn from a two-day visit to **the** Maldives.

Datuk Mohamed yesterday announced his resignation from the Cabinet would take effect after Jan 7 and as Ambassador on Nov 30.

However, he would remain as the MP for Pulai, head of the Pulai Umno division and member of the Johore Umno liaison committee.

In Johore **Baru**, the announcement by Datuk Mohamad Rahmat yesterday that he will be quitting the Cabinet and as Ambassador to Indonesia has taken Umno members by surprise.

The members, **especially those**

in the Pulai division, of which he is the leader, has shocked even **those** who were close to him.

A Pulai Umno **committee** member, when contacted **today**, said Datuk Mohamad only told the committee of the decision **yesterday morning**.

The special meeting was also attended by representatives from 73 branches **in** the division and **re-**presentatives of Barisan Nasional component parties.

"On the whole, the committee and members alike accept Datuk Mohamad's decision and honest intentions."