

# PM: Moggie's Cabinet post not affected

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STAR

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CYBERJAYA: Datuk Amar Leo Moggie will remain as Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister "as long as he is qualified" says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said that Moggie's resignation as PartiBansa Dayak Sarawak president last Wednesday did not affect his Cabinet post.

"His resignation is not related at all to the Cabinet. If he

wanted to resign as party president, he could do it.

"But in the Cabinet, as long as he (Moggie) is qualified to be a minister, I have the right to maintain him in the current position," he told reporters after visiting the InventQjaya laboratories here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir, when asked whether the person taking over the presidency would assume a ministerial post, said: "That is their party convention. They (other members) can take over the party post, but they don't

take over the ministry," he said.

In Jempol, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, when asked if there were problems in PBDS which led to Moggie's resignation, said: "Of course there are problems, but his resignation is to pave the way for the matter to be resolved," he said at a police function.

Abdullah said he had discussed Moggie's resignation with Dr Mahathir and both understood the reasons behind Moggie's decision.