

**Zam: Muhyiddin a disappointed man**  
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A former minister does not seem surprised over the speculation that Muhyiddin Yassin will step down as deputy prime minister.

Zainuddin Maidin, a close associate of former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said Muhyiddin's close friends are aware of his intention to quit.

"Although his excuse is age, he is however said to have deep disappointments regarding several issues," added the former information minister.

However, Zainuddin (left), who is popularly known as Zam, did not elaborate on the reasons for the disappointment.

Yesterday, Muhyiddin, 67, dismissed the speculation, saying he would continue to serve as long as Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak had trust and confidence in him.

"No. I am still alive and kicking," he had said when quizzed on the talk buzzing around political circles.

The speculation came in the wake of talk that Najib was planning a major cabinet reshuffle, which among others would see Muhyiddin being replaced by the prime minister's cousin Hishammuddin Hussein, who is currently defence minister.

Zainuddin, in his blog, acknowledged that the speculation had spread far and wide as he was flooded with questions about it from all over the nation.

Zahid to be replaced by Nazri?

Meanwhile, the former minister also revealed that there is talk of Home Minister Ahmad Zahid being replaced.

He said speculation is that Zahid's portfolio would be assumed by Nazri Abdul Aziz, who currently spearheads the Tourism Ministry.

Reports claimed that the reshuffle would involve three Umno vice-presidents, Hishammuddin, Zahid (right) as well as Rural and Regional Development Minister Shafie Apdal.

In his posting, Zainuddin, who was also the former editor-in-chief of the Umno-owned Utusan Malaysia, took a swipe at fellow veteran newsman A Kadir Jasin as well.

He said the former News Straits Times group editor-in-chief had showcased his "prejudice" when he wrote in his blog that Najib should be dropped as finance minister.

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