

## **Why didn't you resign, Muhyiddin asked**

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**By RK Anand**

Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin has been second-in-command since the inception of 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) to its present state.

"So, where was his objection and inner voice of conscience throughout this period? Why did he not resign then?" asked PKR vice-president Rafizi Ramli, a leading critic of the ailing firm.

The Pandan lawmaker noted that 1MDB was branded as a key government transformational vehicle that formed the cornerstone of BN's policies.

"Muhyiddin was not only a key player in the cabinet that approved the whole transformation plan, he was also a party to all the cabinet decisions that made 1MDB to what it is today.

"Where was Muhyiddin's objection when the cabinet approved the sale of government lands at Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) and Sungai Besi Air Force base to 1MDB at dirt cheap price?

"Why did Muhyiddin allow the cabinet to approve the guarantees and support letters worth billions of ringgit to 1MDB's creditors?

"Worse, Muhyiddin gleefully tagged along when the whole BN GE13 campaign benefitted from 1MDB's fund through Yayasan 1MDB," he told Malaysiakini.

Elaborating, Rafizi said BN's campaign on free tyres for cabbies, sending imam for haj, giving new fishing nets and engines to fishermen and similar programmes for votes were funded by 1MDB to the tune of RM382 million, as announced by Deputy Finance Minister Ahmad Maslan.

### **Why not quit now?**

The PKR leader believes that if the opposition, civil societies and media did not build a strong case against 1MDB, Muhyiddin would have continued to remain silent.

Rafizi was responding to reports concerning a video recording of the deputy prime minister calling for the 1MDB board of directors to be sacked and investigated.

Muhyiddin lamented that he had told Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak of this, but nothing had transpired.

While Najib and 1MDB have urged all quarters to wait for the outcome of the audit on the

firm, the deputy prime minister, however, said the issue cannot wait.

Rafizi said it was convenient for Muhyiddin and a score of other senior Umno leaders to wash their hands clean with regard to 1MDB when they were inextricably linked to 1MDB as much as Najib is.

"If Muhyiddin is really concerned about 1MDB - knowing that Najib will not bow down because 1MDB is linked to him - the most honourable thing for Muhyiddin to do is to resign from the cabinet instead, as his objection to 1MDB.

"That may prompt a serious build up of the case against 1MDB that will put a stop to future abuse of public funds to bail out 1MDB," Rafizi added.

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