

Hishammuddin denies quitting cabinet

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Hishammuddin Hussein today denied that he is quitting his defence minister's post as the cabinet is about to have its weekly meeting today.

Responding to a question posted by a netizen on his Twitter account, Hishammuddin described the talk of him quitting as "negative spin by irresponsible people".

It is believed that Hishammuddin was referring to rumours that he will be resign from cabinet in the wake of the 1MDB imbroglio involving Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

Two days ago, the senior minister spelled out three conditions which must be met for ministers to endorse Najib's ultimatum.

Najib had during the cabinet meeting last Friday reportedly told ministers who refuse to support him to resign.

There should be accountability

Responding to this, Hishammuddin in a Twitter posting outlined the three conditions which are that the troubled state investment company be restructured and there should be accountability if there have been wrongdoings on its part.

In addition, he said, there should also be transparency in both the rationalisation process and in taking wrongdoers to task.

Speculations about Hishammuddin's possible resignation was fuelled by blogger Raja Petra Kamaruddin, who named him and Shafie Apdal (photo) as the two disgruntled ministers planning to quit over Najib's ultimatum.

However, Tourism Minister Nazri Abdul Aziz had dismissed Najib's stance as a threat to ministers.

"They are the leaders in their own communities. I don't think they can be threatened," he had said.