

Nobody comes between me and my cousin, says Hisham

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Hishammuddin Hussein has revealed that blood is indeed thicker than water and dismissed claims of a rift between him and his cousin, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

Speaking at a press conference this evening, the defence minister stressed that nobody could drive a wedge between them.

"Those who try to instigate a fight between the premier and I will not be successful, take my word for it," he said after chairing a post cabinet meeting today.

"Speaking of resigning from cabinet posts, Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin would have resigned yesterday, together with few cabinet ministers," he said sarcastically.

Hisham was referring to rumours which claimed Muhyiddin (photo) would resign after he returned to Malaysia last night from an overseas trip, and another cabinet minister, Shafie Apdal, would be handing in his resignation soon.

He also claimed there were certain quarters who simply did not want to see them moving forward as a team in resolving 1MDB issues.

Hisham also reiterated his denial on quitting the cabinet over differences with Najib regarding the debt-laden 1MDB.

He also addressed his controversial tweet which was interpreted by some as not supporting Najib wholeheartedly as he had spelt out three conditions - rationalisation, accountability and transparency, to resolve issues relating to 1MDB.

According to him, the government had made progress in realising the conditions.

He pointed out the cabinet had discussed on 1MDB's rationalisation, while the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and Auditor-General's Chambers are probing the GLC's accounts.

Finance Minister II Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah (photo) will also be on national television to clarify 1MDB issues.

"These are already in progress, so the issue of me resigning doesn't arise," he said.

When asked if he agreed with Najib's ultimatum, he said, he agreed that the ministers who oppose the rationalisation of 1MDB and the principle of being accountable and transparent, should resign.

"I hope (the media) will give me fair coverage to counter the negative spins," he said.

However the Umno leader, who attended the cabinet meeting last Friday, said he didn't know if PM's ultimatum pinpointed the deputy prime minister or everyone in general.

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