

Muhyiddin smiles amidst storm of PM, 1MDB posers

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By Radzi Razak

Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin chose to keep mum today as journalists bombarded him with questions from the seventh floor of the Mercu UEM building in Kuala Lumpur right up to his car parked outside.

He smiled and nodded as a barrage of questions were fielded at him on 1MDB and Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's ultimatum to dissenting ministers on 1MDB to resign.

His security detail, uncharacteristically, did not hold back reporters from walking alongside the DPM and shooting their questions.

Reporter from mainstream prints, television and portals have been attending his two events today, as the perceived rift between him and Najib (photo) after the 1MDB fiasco seem to have heightened.

In the morning event at Putrajaya, Muhyiddin similarly left the event and did not attend the press conference by the organiser.

Muhyiddin has, on several occasions, broken ranks with his boss on the debt-laden firm, with the latest being his widely exposed speech on the 1MDB fiasco at a closed-door Umno meeting in his home state of Johor.

In his speech, a video recording of which has since gone viral on social media, the deputy prime minister called for the 1MDB directors to be sacked and investigated.

Missing from special meet

Yesterday, Muhyiddin was reportedly absent at a special meeting for cabinet ministers at the Majestic Hotel in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday night which reportedly ended at midnight.

A source close to Muhyiddin told Malaysiakini this was because the deputy prime minister could not make it in time as he arrived at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) from an overseas trip at 8.45pm.

"The deputy prime minister was aware of the meeting but could not attend as he landed late," he said.

Utusan Malaysia on Monday reported that Najib gave an ultimatum at the cabinet meeting last Friday, after Second Finance Minister Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah presented the 1MDB restructuring plan.

"The prime minister announced that any cabinet member who was not with him on the

1MDB issue, should resign.

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