

Reappoint 'Umno lifeline' as DPM, Najib told

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Perkasa president Ibrahim Ali wants Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak to reappoint Muhyiddin Yassin as his number two.

He said current deputy premier, Ahmad Zahid Hamidi (photo), would only be able to retain the post for two years until the next general election.

To ensure Umno and BN continue to administer the nation after the next general election, he added that Najib must bring back Muhyiddin, whom Ibrahim described as Umno's "lifeline".

"Umno's lifeline for GE14 is with Muhyiddin, if Najib is smart, he must return the DPM post to Muhyiddin," he told a press conference today.

Ibrahim said even if Zahid is sacked from his deputy prime ministership, he could still maintain a cabinet post.

"But if (Zahid remains) until the next election, BN will lose, so the deputy prime minister's post will be finished and he won't even be a cabinet member," he added.

Commenting on rumours that Muhyiddin will be sacked come Sept 9 from his deputy president's post at the Umno supreme council meeting, Ibrahim (photo) said: "People say that he will be sacked on Sept 9. If this is true, then Umno is only digging its grave deeper."

Muhyiddin was sacked from his post as deputy prime minister last month for being critical of Najib's handling of the 1MDB fiasco.

And with the supreme council meeting approaching, speculation is rife that he may be sacked as Umno deputy president as well.

Umno activist Shahbudin Husin in his blog posting yesterday said that while opinions on what will happen are split, there were indications that Muhyiddin may be shown the door.

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