

**No qualms with being a backbencher, says Muhyiddin**  
**MalaysiaKini.com**  
**Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

During the last Parliament session in June, Muhyiddin Yassin was seated next to Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

Now, he has been relegated to being amongst BN backbenchers following Najib's decision to axe him from the cabinet.

However, Muhyiddin is unfazed by the change in stature.

"I have sat in this seat before when I was a backbencher (in the past). This is not a problem for me," the Umno deputy president and Pagoh MP quoted by Sin Chew Daily.

Similarly, former minister Mohd Shafie Apdal was also unperturbed.

As a MP, the Umno vice-president said, what is important is representing the people and ensuring that the nation is on the right track.

Quizzed on how it felt to be seated in the same row as Muhyiddin and Umno veteran Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, the Semporna MP replied: "They are my colleagues."

Like Muhyiddin, Shafie too was dropped from the Cabinet in late July for being critical of 1MDB.

Their removal was part of sweeping changes instituted by Najib, which led critics to accuse him of derailing investigations into 1MDB and the RM2.6 billion deposited into his bank accounts as well as to silence critics.

The prime minister, however, denied any wrongdoing.