

Take a break, Muhyiddin tells Najib

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Zikri Kamarulzaman

Having treaded lightly thus far, sidelined Umno deputy president Muhyiddin Yassin today aimed straight for president Najib Abdul Razak by telling him to "take a break".

He said Najib should take leave pending investigation on state investment firm 1MDB.

"Take leave momentarily, not resign, just take a break.

"Don't let there be a perception that the prime minister is meddling in investigations.

"If he is not involved, and we pray he is not, come back to serve as prime minister again," he said.

He said this in his much-anticipated speech at the Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur, with former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad and some 1,000 others in attendance.

He also hit out at Najib and Umno vice president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi for the three-minute explanation in Parliament that Zahid gave on Najib's behalf over the RM2.6 billion found in Najib's bank account.

"Why didn't the PM go to Parliament to explain, why did he have to ask his deputy to do so?" he asked.

He also slammed Zahid for not allowing questions to be asked after the brief explanation.

"You can't do that, people come to Parliament to ask questions.

"Did he (Zahid) really meet the donor, was he handsome? Is he a trillionaire because he isn't, he cannot donate billions," Muhyiddin said.

Zahid took Muhyiddin's job after the latter was sacked as DPM in the July cabinet reshuffle.

Muhyiddin earlier expressed concern that the National Security Council Bill may be abused.

"I don't want to question the use of laws for national security.

"But I'm worried that there is a tendency for laws to be used for other purposes," Muhyiddin said at an assembly in Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur tonight.

He had earlier given an example of how the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act (Sosma) was misused to arrest Umno man Khairuddin Abu Hassan for lodging complaints against 1MDB overseas.

The Pagoh MP, however, said he was not in Parliament the day the Bill was passed by the Dewan Rakyat.

Umno decided to do away with the tradition of having the party number two officiate the party wings' respective AGMs, thus taking away Muhyiddin's opportunity to address them tomorrow.

The party has yet to decide if he can deliver a winding up speech on the last day of the assembly.

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