

MPs that supported budget listened to King's advice – PM

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Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin heaped praise on the lawmakers who supported Budget 2021 and ensured the budget's passage in the Dewan Rakyat.

Besides proving that Perikatan Nasional cares for the people, he said the MPs also heeded the Yang DiPertuan Agong's advice for Parliament to pass the budget.

"The stance of MPs who supported this budget proved they held high the Agong's advice, who wanted the budget passed without disturbance, what more in the country's current situation facing the threat of Covid-19," he said in a statement tonight.

The King had in October advised MPs to set aside political differences and back Budget 2021.

The supply bill was passed in the Dewan Rakyat earlier this afternoon.

A bloc vote called during the third reading ended with 111 MPs in favour, and 108 MPs against, with one MP absent.

The absent MP was Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah (BN-Gua Musang).

Overall the opposition bench moved and lost 11 bloc votes.

This includes nine bloc votes on individual ministry budgets during the committee stage - mostly against former Pakatan Harapan MPs turned Perikatan Nasional (PN) ministers - while the other 18 ministries were passed via voice votes.

The budget had been seen as a proxy confidence vote on Muhyiddin - who has been facing internal threats from Umno.

It was also seen as a test on whether PKR president Anwar Ibrahim could prove that he had the numbers to take over as prime minister.

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