

Cabinet ministers, including those from Umno, rally behind Muhyiddin

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Bernama

Members of Muhyiddin Yassin's cabinet today unanimously expressed support for him to continue as prime minister.

In a joint statement, the ministers said all decisions made by the cabinet were done collectively and the focus now would be to ensure the success of the National Recovery Plan.

This meant that all nine Umno MPs in the cabinet will not be heeding the Umno supreme council's decision to withdraw support for Muhyiddin. The nine are:

- Ismail Sabri Yaakob (Bera) - Deputy prime minister, Defence
- Annuar Musa (Keteroh) - Federal Territories
- Shamsul Anuar Nasarah (Lenggong) - Energy and Natural Resources
- Noraini Ahmad (Parit Sulong) - Higher Education
- Reezal Merican Naina Merican (Kepala Batas) - Youth and Sports

- Hishammuddin Hussein (Sembrong) - Foreign Affairs
- Khairy Jamaluddin (Rembau) - Science, Technology, and Innovation; Vaccines
- Halimah Mohamed Sadique (Kota Tinggi) - National Unity
- Dr Adham Baba (Tenggara) - Health

On July 8, Umno president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi announced that his party was withdrawing support for Muhyiddin and demanded that he step down and for an interim prime minister to be appointed.

Zahid said Umno could no longer support Muhyiddin primarily because the latter's government had failed in its Covid-19 response.

However, the actual number of Umno MPs who have broken ranks with the party and continue to support Muhyiddin cannot be established as of yet. [See chart below]

According to Article 43(2)(a) of the Federal Constitution, the position of the prime minister can only be determined by Yang di-Pertuan Agong, who will choose an MP which in his opinion commanded the confidence of the majority in the Dewan Rakyat.

The Dewan Rakyat will convene on July 26 where confidence in Muhyiddin can be tested should any motion or bill be voted on.

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