

# I aim to accomplish mission: Muhyiddin

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UMNO vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin says he definitely does not believe in the "Agriculture and Agri-based Industries Ministry is the so-called political grave for an Umno minister" talk, and will prove it wrong.

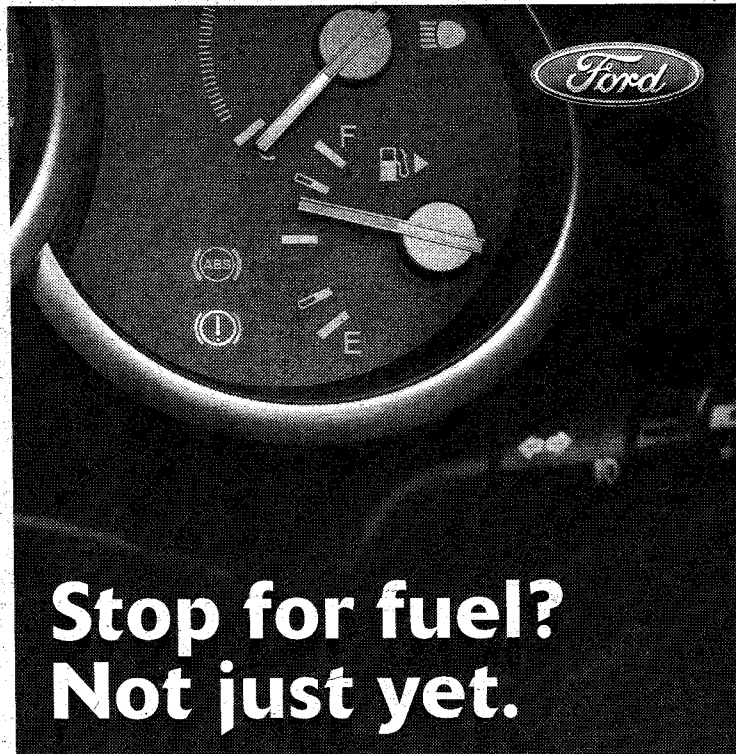
In an interview published in *Nanyang Siang Pau* yesterday, he made it clear it is not that he wants to cling onto ministerial or party posts but is there because of the mission in the ministry waiting to be accomplished.

He said although the mission is by no means easy, he is willing to take up the challenge.

"Agriculture and Agro-based Industries Ministry is not the political grave for an Umno minister. Why do you have to look at it this way? It is one of the biggest ministries, encompassing not just agriculture and agro-based industries but also the biotech field, which is a large scope," he said.

"It (the ministry) has an important mission, especially as Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has stressed agricultural development, giving it the new mission of becoming one of the prime movers of the country's economic growth."

Much like the talk for years that the Health Ministry is the political *cal de sac* for MCA ministers, there is also talk in Umno that the Agriculture and Agro-based Industries Ministry is the political terminus for an Umno minister, i.e. anyone



**Stop for fuel?  
Not just yet.**

from the party given the ministry will not likely go any further in their political career.

In the interview, Muhyiddin, 60, talked about his

relationship with other senior leaders in Umno, including Abdullah and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

On his relationship with Najib, he said he is not a hypocrite who would say one thing and do another.

"Najib is very supportive of the measures I have taken in the ministry. We meet up to discuss things. Whenever I have important matters that require his and Abdullah's participation, I would seek their participation, and he (Najib) is all for policies carried out for the good of agriculture."

In politics, Muhyiddin said, he is clear about his and Najib's positions in the party and he has assisted Najib in his capacity as party vice-president.

"Najib respects me. I mean, he accepts my opinions. Even on many matters, he would say 'we will start the meeting when Muhyiddin has arrived.' This, to me, shows he respects me."

He said mutual respect and good relationship between comrades are important for any association or group.

On his splendid relationship with Abdullah, Muhyiddin said he is a loyal supporter of the prime minister.