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Muhyiddin removed in Cabinet reshuffle

*Ahmad Zahid named as
new DPM, in addition
to current post as
home minister*

by P PREM KUMAR

DEPUTY Prime Minister (DPM) and Education Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin was removed in a major Cabinet reshuffle that also saw four other ministers being dropped.

Umno VP Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi was named as the new DPM, in addition to his cur-

rent post as home minister.

Muhyiddin, who is Umno deputy president, joins Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as the only two DPMs sacked from office.

Umno VP Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal was also dropped as the rural development minister and replaced by Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Three others who were dropped were Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Hasan Malek, Natural Resources and Environmental Minister Datuk Seri G Palanivel as well as Science, Technology

and Innovation Minister Datuk Dr Ewon Ebin.

They were replaced by Datuk Hamzah Zainuddin, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar and Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau respectively.

Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakri was also not re-named.

Speaking to reporters, Najib said removing Muhyiddin was a tough decision to make, but it was necessary to strengthen the government and for the Cabinet to move forward in one direction.