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Throw them away, says DPM

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Muhyiddin: 1MDB board must be sacked and probed by cops

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PETALING JAYA: Just two weeks after blasting 1MDB, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin has demanded that its entire board be sacked.

"I told the Prime Minister to sack the board of 1MDB. Throw them away! They are the ones who burdened the Prime Minister with this," he was quoted as saying in a video recorded at a closed-door session.

In the leaked video of the speech in Janda Baik last week, the Deputy Prime Minister lashed out at 1MDB's huge debts.

"What do you do? Throw it away! This CEO - throw away! And... ask the police to investigate.

"If the company were mine and I woke up to reports of such an

extraordinary event, with the CEO making an issue by borrowing up to RM10bil, and every month I have to pay interest of RM100mil to RM200mil... I never thought any company could have such a burden, but it is happening in Malaysia," Muhyiddin told the packed hall.

Among those at the meeting were Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob and Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Ahmad Maslan.

Approached by reporters in Parliament yesterday, Muhyiddin confirmed his remarks.

"Yes, I told the Prime Minister to sack the 1MDB board. There's nothing new about what I said. I have mentioned it openly before," he added.

Asked if Najib had responded to his calls, Muhyiddin shrugged and grinned.

After last week's Umno supreme council meeting Najib, the adviser of 1MDB, had asked for more time to resolve the controversy and said the council backed him.

Muhyiddin said the closed-door event, which was organised by Umno's training bureau, aimed to provide members with a better understanding of the 1MDB issue.

In the video, Muhyiddin said he had asked Najib how the issue should be solved as the people needed to be shown that the Government was transparent and viewed the 1MDB scandal seriously.

He said his words were not intended to put down the party president, "show off or show that he hated the leadership.

"But... this is a real problem. How did a Government-owned company become saddled with liabilities of RM42bil in such a short time?

"Take action so the people can

see that the Government leadership is responsible. If not, this is a burden that will drag us down.

"We have to take action. We cannot have the 'never mind, give it some time' attitude" he said.

He also dismissed rumours of a plot by him, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz and former finance minister Tun Daim Zainuddin to topple the leadership.

"*Fitnah* (lies). Don't trust what you see on social media," he added.

Former law minister Datuk Zaid Ibrahim backed Muhyiddin's call to sack the 1MDB board.

"Congratulations Muhyiddin for speaking out," he tweeted.

But he also wondered if the demand was realistic. "Did Najib appoint them (1MDB board members) or was it someone else?" he asked.