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Zahid: Dr M did right thing in quitting posts

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WASHINGTON: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has done the right thing by giving up the posts he held in entities associated with the Government, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said.

"It makes things difficult for the Government when someone who is not aligned with it holds posts in its entities, even as an adviser," Dr Ahmad Zahid, who is on a working visit to the United States, said to Malaysian journalists here on Thursday night.

Dr Mahathir resigned on Wednesday as chairman of Proton Holdings Bhd, chairman of Group Lotus Plc, chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Petronas, and adviser to Langkawi Development Authority and Tioman Island Development Authority.

Dr Ahmad Zahid, who was replying to a question, said Dr Mahathir's resignations showed that he understood what needed to be done when he no longer supported the Government.

On March 11, the Cabinet decided to remove Dr Mahathir

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Datuk Seri Dr. Zahid Hamidi

as adviser to Petronas.

Dr Mahathir quit Umno on Feb 29, citing loss of faith in the party.

Dr Ahmad Zahid said that although Proton was not a government company, it was associated with the National Automotive Policy and would require technical and financial support from the Government.

Asked about Dr Mahathir's position in the Perdana Leadership Foundation, Dr Ahmad Zahid said there was no pressure on the former prime minister to quit as the honorary president. — Bernama