

I did **my best** to save PN administration: Muhyiddin

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➤ Efforts to manage pandemic, revive economy proved futile as certain quarters 'were greedy to grab power'

KUALA LUMPUR: Caretaker prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said he had made various efforts until the last minute to keep the Perikatan Nasional (PN) government intact, at least until it had completed its duty to manage the pandemic and revive the economy.

He said his efforts were, however, unsuccessful because certain parties were greedy to grab power, without considering its impact on the people's lives and livelihoods.

Muhyiddin said he had tendered his resignation as prime minister and that of the whole Cabinet to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong in accordance with Article 43(4) of the Federal Constitution because he had lost majority support in the Dewan Rakyat.

He said he had initially proposed to use Parliament to determine his legitimacy as prime minister but decided to resign after 15 Umno

lawmakers withdrew support for him, and the Opposition rejected his offer of cross-party cooperation, Bernama reported.

"I heard the sincere appeal of millions of Malaysians for me to carry on and not to resign. However, I cannot fulfil your plea because I have lost the confidence of the majority of Dewan Rakyat members."

Muhyiddin said he had assumed the prime minister's post at a time when the country was hit by an unprecedented health and economic crisis and rocked by political problems.

"Six years ago, I was sacked as the deputy prime minister just because I defended my principle of not compromising on the case of 1MDB (1Malaysia Development Bhd) irregularities."

Muhyiddin said he could have taken the easy way out by abandoning his principle to remain

as prime minister but this was not his way of doing things.

The Pagoh member of Parliament said he would never work with kleptocrats, disturb the independence of the judiciary and violate the Federal Constitution just to remain in power.

Muhyiddin also took the opportunity to apologise to the people and seek forgiveness for the weaknesses and mistakes he had committed during his tenure as prime minister.

Muhyiddin expressed his utmost appreciation to frontliners for their hard work in combating the pandemic and thanked workers and the top management of the civil service for their full cooperation in implementing policies decided by the PN government.

He also conveyed his thanks to industries, workers, non-governmental organisations, community leaders and all others who had helped the government extend its services to the people.

"Stay calm. May the Yang di-Pertuan Agong be blessed with wisdom to choose the new prime minister in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Constitution."