

AG: Muhyiddin still PM

pg. 1 of 4

The Malaysian Reserve - 9/7/2021

Dewan Rakyat members have to determine whether one has the majority support and announcements by party leaders are not valid in this case

by RAHIMI YUNUS

TAN Sri Muhyiddin Yassin's Perikatan Nasional (PN) government remains in charge despite a split coalition, after major partner Umno announced its withdrawal of support, according to the Attorney General (AG).

AG Tan Sri Idrus Harun said the government has no clear facts to show that the prime minister (PM) has lost the majority confidence of

Dewan Rakyat members, despite the announcement from Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said according to the Federal Constitution, Dewan Rakyat members have to determine whether one has the majority support and announcements by party leaders are not valid in this case.

"As such, according to the law, the current PM and the Cabinet ministers clearly still stay to conduct the federal executive power," Idrus said in a statement yesterday.

The PN government took over after it replaced the Pakatan Harapan (PH) administration on headcount support of MPs on paper, but has never faced a show of hands in Parliament, which has been shut since

February 2020 on Covid-19 concerns.

Meanwhile, various parties from both sides of Parliament have disputed Muhyiddin's tenure following Ahmad Zahid's announcement.

Opposition bloc PH said Muhyiddin has lost the base support and majority support of MPs when a leader of Umno, the biggest political party, withdrew support from the PN coalition and demanded Muhyiddin to resign.

"It was obvious that the AG had acted more as a PN political member than upholding constitutional supremacy.

"Hence, Tan Sri Mahiaddin Mohd Yassin (sic) needs to resign with honour because he had lost the support and legitimacy as a PM," PKR president Datuk Seri Anwar

Ibrahim, Parti Amanah Negara president Mohamad Sabu and DAP secretary general Lim Guan Eng said in a joint statement yesterday.

The PH Presidential Council also said this is not the right time for a general election (GE).

Although Ahmad Zahid had announced that Umno has withdrawn support from Muhyiddin, Umno MPs, including newly appointed Deputy PM Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaacob, remains in his Cabinet yesterday with no sign of adhering to their president's announcement.

Their non-committal stance is a clear sign of a split within Umno with regards to the PN government, analysts said.