

# MUHYIDDIN CLAIMS TRIAL TO SEDITION CHARGE

PN chairman accused of making seditious remarks during campaign for Nenggiri by-election

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**P**ERIKATAN Nasional chairman Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin was charged at the Sessions Court here yesterday with making seditious remarks.

The former prime minister pleaded not guilty when the charge was read to him before judge Nik Mohd Tarmizie Nik Mohd Shukri.

According to the charge sheet, Muhyiddin, who is Pagoh member of parliament, was charged with uttering the following seditious remarks:

"I want to tell this story, whether the people of Nenggiri remember it or not. At the time, I received support again, from 115 members of parliament.

"According to the Constitution, if I, as an MP, receive the support of 114 (MPs), including one MP seat from myself Muhyiddin Yassin, that makes 115.

"There are 222 parliamentary seats. How many if you divide by two? It's 111. If you get one more, you can form a government. But I received 115. If you calculate based on the Constitution, I had more



After he was charged with sedition at the Gua Musang Sessions Court yesterday, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin appealed for prayers and support. PIC BY NIK ABDULLAH NIK OMAR

than enough to become prime minister.

"This is not about bringing up the past, it's a record of history. Somehow, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong at the time did not invite me to the palace for the swearing-in.

"Who was the Yang di-Pertuan Agong back then? We know who. Let's not say anything bad, but that to me was quite unusual. But it's alright.

"After that, a unity government was formed. Now we call it the 'madanon government'."

Muhyiddin was charged with making the remarks near Dewan Semai Bakti in Felda Perasu here between 10.30pm and 11.50pm on Aug 14. The charges were framed under Section 4(l)(b) of

the Sedition Act 1948 and punishable under Subsection 4(1) of the Act, which provides for a fine of up to RM5,000, three years' jail, or both, if convicted.

Datuk Umar Saifuddin Jaafar led a six-member prosecution team. Muhyiddin was represented by Amer Hamzah Arshad, Chetan Jethwani, Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan, Mohd Nasir Abdullah and Mariana Mat Kudin.

Earlier, Umar Saifuddin asked for bail to be set at RM20,000 and for the court to impose a gag order on Muhyiddin.

Amer Hamzah said the proposed RM20,000 bail was unreasonable and excessive because in Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor's court case, bail was only set

at RM5,000.

He said a bail of RM5,000 was sufficient and there was no need for a gag order as the case was already public knowledge.

The court set bail at RM5,000 and rejected the request for a gag order. The court fixed Nov 4 for case mention.

Later, Muhyiddin appealed for prayers and support.

In a post on Facebook, he confirmed that he had been charged under the Sedition Act.

"I pleaded not guilty. I pray to Allah that the court will grant me justice.\* I also hope for prayers and support from all of you."

Page 1 pic: Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin arriving at the Gua Musang Sessions Court yesterday.