

**BN 'war room' wants Hisham in Home Ministry, says sources
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 14 — Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein is likely to remain as Home Minister as Barisan Nasional (BN) "war room" strategists believe he is the best man for the job, say sources.

The Malaysian Insider understands that the strategists have argued for the Umno vice-president to keep the key post despite his patchy success since taking the job in 2009.

"Right now, his name is for the Home Minister, because he is good," a source told The Malaysian Insider.

The Malaysian Insider had run an online poll that saw nearly 22,000 readers take part over the past 24 hours. A total of 21,544 or 97 per cent were against his reappointment while only 608 or three per cent supported the move.

Hishammuddin had been criticised in the past year over rising crime and for the delayed reaction to the Sulu incursion in Sabah's east coast last February. Malaysia's defence forces are still combing the area for any remaining Sulu gunmen who wanted to claim the state for the Sulu sultanate.

Putrajaya had said that the national crime rate decreased by six per cent in the first quarter of this year.

The government also said that the overall crime rate had gone down by 27 per cent between 2009 and 2012, while street crime in the same period went down 39.7 per cent with more policemen on the ground.

But there has been criticisms and allegations that the police had doctored the crime statistics which the government denied.

Despite that, the Sembrong MP had retained his seat in Election 2013 with 22,841 votes against PKR's Onn Abu Bakar who only took 12,210 votes.

In Election 2008, Hishammuddin had a higher majority although he only got 17,988 votes against PKR's Lee Sang who took 6,418 votes.

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