

**Ministers must agree with PM in all decisions or resign, says Zahid**  
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**By Muzliza Mustafa**

Ministers who have lost confidence in Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak should have quit the Cabinet voluntarily if they disagreed with him, Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said today.

Zahid said this would have been the most honourable thing to do as otherwise, all ministers had to agree with the prime minister's decisions.

"The power to appoint a minister and to sack them is with the prime minister. The ministers have to agree with him in all decisions," Zahid told reporters after the Home Ministry's monthly gathering in Putrajaya this morning.

He was responding to a question on the prime minister's ultimatum reportedly issued to the ministers at last Friday's Cabinet meeting.

Najib, during the meeting, had told ministers to resign if they disagreed with him on rehabilitating debt-ridden state investment firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

"Those who have lost confidence and have questioned decisions openly should have resigned. I don't think there is a need to wait for the PM to sack," Zahid said.

Najib's ultimatum followed a statement by Barisan Backbenchers Club chairman Tan Sri Shahrir Samad, who last week said ministers who did not agree with the cabinet's collective decision on 1MDB should resign.

Shahrir was expressing his agreement with Umno's Gua Musang MP Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who said the entire Cabinet was collectively responsible for 1MDB's controversies which have sapped public confidence over the government's handling and transparency over the Finance Ministry-owned firm.

Ministers who have spoken openly against 1MDB include Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who said the entire 1MDB board should be sacked over the firm's RM42 billion debts which he said could bring down the government.

Other ministers like Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal and Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein have also openly called for more answers and transparency in resolving 1MDB's controversies.

Zahid today also dismissed views by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who yesterday said that the Cabinet did not know how to deal with 1MDB.

The finance-ministry owned firm is the subject of several investigations – by the Auditor-General, Parliament's Public Accounts Committee and a joint-probe by the police and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. The Cabinet also has its own

paper on a restructuring plan for the troubled firm. – June 4, 2015.

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