

Nothing new in Muhyiddin's removal from Cabinet, Hishammuddin tells Batu Umno
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein today has urged party members to close rank and focus on the party, instead of individuals.

He said this in reference to the recent sacking of Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, the party's deputy president, from the deputy prime minister's post and several others.

"This is not a new thing. We have faced similar situations before but we should close rank to come out stronger and more united," said Hishammuddin in his speech to Umno Batu division annual general meeting in Gombak this morning.

He said Muhyiddin's fate was similar to past leadership including his own grandfather Datuk Onn Jaafar, who resigned from his post as Umno president in 1951, when the party rejected his motion to include non-Malays into the party.

"Same with Tun Dr Ismail Abdul Rahman, who quit as home minister when he had a disagreement with the then prime minister Tunku Abdul Rahman."

He said that the leadership change does not mean that the problems at hand could not be solved, referring to the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) scandal.

"We cannot judge a person based on what we read on social media. Let the special task force do its job.

"Right now, we would like to ask our party members to give the task force room to do their job. I also want to know about 1MDB," said Hishammuddin.

He said that he had informed Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak that the 1MDB issues needed to be resolved as soon as possible.

"We only need time. We need to convince the people that whoever is accountable in this case will not be protected and that the investigation is being carried out in a transparent manner," he said.

Hishammuddin added that he was convinced that the matter could be solved by the end of the year. – August 2, 2015.

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