

## **Deputy, vice-presidents won't officiate Umno wing assemblies, says Najib**

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**By Ram Anand**

Umno will do away with its tradition of having its deputy president and vice-presidents officiate the party's Youth, Wanita, and Puteri wing assemblies during annual general meeting next month, president Datuk Seri Najib Razak said today.

Instead, the chiefs of the respective wings will officiate the meetings, he said.

This is in order to create a "positive atmosphere" during the Umno assembly this year, Najib, who is also the prime minister, told the media after chairing the party's supreme council meeting today.

The move comes amid discord in the lead ruling Malay party following the sacking of deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and vice-president Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal, both removed from Najib's Cabinet in July after being critical of his brainchild 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), which is mired in debt.

There had been speculation as to how the party would deal with allowing Muhyiddin, who, following tradition, would have given opening speeches at the wing assemblies.

He has remained vocal in criticising Najib even after being removed from the Cabinet.

Muhyiddin and Shafie were absent during today's Supreme Council meet.

"In this assembly, we want a good and positive atmosphere," Najib said.

"Among the decisions we made is that that the wing assemblies will be officiated by their respective chiefs." – November 24, 2015.

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