

Umno Supreme Council bars Muhyiddin from speaking at assembly
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By KC Nazari

The Umno Supreme Council has rejected an appeal from Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin to speak at the general assembly, effectively preventing the embattled deputy president from criticising Datuk Seri Najib Razak further at the general assembly.

The Umno deputy president told reporters this after tonight's Supreme Council meeting.

"I and Datuk (Seri) Shafie (Apdal) appealed to be allowed to speak but it was rejected.

"During the discussion there were some who objected to our appeal. I don't know why but that was the final decision," he said.

Muhyiddin said he did not agree with the decision which denied him space to speak at the general assembly as the party's deputy president and noted that it was a tradition for the party's deputy to address the assembly.

Meanwhile, vice-president Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi confirmed the decision.

Apart from Najib, Zahid said the heads of the Youth, Wanita and Puteri wings will reply to points raised by delegates during the assembly.

He said there was no discussion on disciplinary action to be taken against Muhyiddin and Shafie at tonight's Supreme Council meeting.

Zahid's confirmation quashed rumours that swirled in social media that Muhyiddin and Shafie would face disciplinary action tonight during the meeting.

On Monday, anticipating being barred from speaking to Umno members, Muhyiddin had spoken at a special gathering at the Kelab Sultan Suleiman in Kampung Baru, where he made his strongest attack on the Umno leadership.

Muhyiddin, who was dropped as deputy prime minister after openly questioning Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak on the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) issue, had said he will still attend the assembly tomorrow.

Muhyiddin's colleagues in Umno's top decision-making body, the Supreme Council, have hit out at him for speaking out against Najib at the Kampung Baru gathering.

Muhyiddin has been at odds with Najib over the 1MDB fiasco and how the party president and prime minister received RM2.6 billion into his personal bank accounts.

These disagreements resulted in Muhyiddin being dropped from Najib's Cabinet in

July.

Umno leaders who attended a closed-door briefing session with the president yesterday told The Malaysian Insider that Najib had allegedly said the relationship with Muhyiddin had become "difficult". – December 9, 2015

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