



WAN MOHAMED

Exco member Wan¹¹⁰
Mohamed takes
over from Ghazali

**New Perak
MB named**

NST. 27 SEP. 1977
STATE Executive Councillor Wan Mohamed bin Haji Wan Teh has been named the new Mentri Besar of Perak from Oct. 1.

He takes over from Tan Sri Ghazali Jawi who will step down on Friday.

The announcement was made by Acting Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad here today after a meeting with the Sultan of Perak at Rumah Perak in Jalan Tun Dr. Ismail here.

Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir told a Press conference the Sultan had consented to the decisions made earlier by Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn.

The announcement ended rife speculation on Tan Sri Ghazali's resignation over differences with the Sultan.

Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir said he hoped the leadership changeover would end the crisis in the State.

Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir also announced the appointment of the Assemblyman for Pengkalan Baru, Encik Malik Haji Ahmad, to Wan Mohamed's Exco post.

The Acting Prime Minister said he conveyed the decisions to the Perak Executive Council, the State National Front, and the Perak Umno Liaison Committee on Saturday, but they could not be announced until after the Sultan had given his consent.

He said the Sultan gave his consent in a letter given to him at their 30-minute meeting this morning. Perak State Secretary Haji Raden Soenarno and the State Legal Advisor, Shukri Daud Ismail, were present.

Replying to questions, Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir said it had not been decided whether Tan Sri Ghazali would give up his seat in the State Assembly.

For the time being, he would remain as the chairman of the Perak Umno State Liaison Committee and the Perak National Front. The decisions on the two posts would be announced later.

Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir also said it was incidental that although the decision was made by Datuk Hussein as the chairman of the National Front and president of Umno, the announcement was made by him because Datuk Hussein was now in the United States.

Asked whether Tan Sri Ghazali had resigned voluntarily, he said the resignation was agreed by all concerned.

He said some time was taken to arrive at the decisions because any rash action could result in unfavourable reactions.

Wan Mohamed, 49, is the State Assemblyman for Temenggong and a member of the Perak Umno Liaison Committee.

He was first elected an Assemblyman in 1969 in the Grik constituency and was returned unopposed in the same constituency, renamed Temenggong, in 1974.

He is now in Ottawa, Canada, attending the 23rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meeting and is due to return tomorrow.

He was educated at the Malay College and the Clifford School in Kuala Kangsar. He was a Malayan Railway ticketing clerk before becoming the Ulu Perak District Information Officer prior to his resigna-

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tion to contest the election.

He is married to Mariyah Mahmud, 37. They have six children. He has two other children from a wife who died.

In IPOH, the announcement was welcomed by the component parties of the National Front.

State MCA secretary Mr. Peter Chin said the party welcomed the appointment.

He gave an assurance that they would co-operate with Wan Mohamed for the benefit of the people and the advancement of the National Front in the State.

"The MCA will send a delegation to meet the new Mentri Besar to discuss the political development in the State and how the MCA can help the Government," Mr. Chin said.

The State MIC secretary, Mr. K. Kumaran, said he hoped the new Mentri Besar would look into the immediate problem of the Indians in the State.

The MIC would be cal-

ling an emergency meeting soon to discuss the appointment.

"We are in touch with MIC headquarters and will see the new Mentri Besar soon," he said.

The State Gerakan chairman, Senator Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, said the party welcomed the appointment and pledged its full support to the new Mentri Besar.

"We will do our best to help him further strengthen the Government and in the smooth running of its development plans," he said.

The Perak PAS Dewan Ulama and Dewan Muslimat were happy over the appointment.

Their spokesmen expressed the hope that under the new Mentri Besar, the State Government would be smoothly run for the benefit of the people.

Perak Wanita Umno vice-chairman Puan Onn Zariah hoped the political situation in the State would be brighter with the new leadership.

Tan Sri Ghazali, 53, the former Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, became the Mentri Besar of Perak for the second time in September 1974.

He first held the post from 1957 to 1960 when he resigned to become the Ambassador to Cairo.

He was made a Senator in 1963 and appointed Assistant Minister of Rural Development.

He was returned to the Ulu Perak parliamentary constituency in the 1964 elections and appointed Assistant Minister of Lands and Mines and later promoted to Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives.

He was returned again in the 1969 elections and remained in the Cabinet until the 1974 elections.