

New Ministry for International

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3 newcomers

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced his new Cabinet, which includes three new Ministers, and the creation of a new Ministry.

Encik Ghafar Baba remains Deputy Prime Minister.

Among the senior Ministers who retain their portfolios are Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (Education), Datuk Paduka Daim Zainuddin (Finance), Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik (Transport), Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu (Energy, Telecommunications and Posts), Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik (Primary Industries) and Datuk Leo Moggie (Works).

Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz now heads the new Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Her former portfolio, the Trade and Industry Ministry, has now been expanded to become the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs. Its Minister is Datuk Haji Sulaiman Daud, who was the Justice Minister and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

The Welfare Ministry has been expanded and reconstituted to become the Ministry of National Unity and Community Development. It is headed by Datuk Napsiah Omar.

New faces

Dr Mahathir also announced the appointment of nine new Deputy Ministers and seven new Parliamentary Secretaries.

In his remarks before the announcement, Dr Mahathir said Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah has consented to these appointments during an audience the Prime Minister had with him today.

He said the line-up was made after he had given due consideration to all the interests of the Barisan Nasional component parties and those of all States.

He had also met the presidents of all BN component parties before making the announcement.

Dr Mahathir said the inclusion of new faces was made because he felt they could contribute to the Government.

He said the BN Government, after receiving the new mandate with a two-thirds majority, would continue to administer efficiently and with a deep sense of trustworthiness.

One of the new faces is MP for Kota Tinggi Syed Hamid Syed Jaafar Albar, who is the Justice Minister and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

Haji Annuar Musa, who lost in the contest for the Nilam Puri parliamentary seat in Kelantan, was made a Senator and is now the new Minister of Youth and Sports.

Usno's Tan Sri Haji Sakaran Dandai, the MP for Semporna, is the Minister of Land and Co-operative Development, previously known as the Ministry of Land and Regional Development.

Comeback

Those promoted to full Ministers are Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha who is now Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Law Hieng Ding who is now Science, Technology and Environment Minister and Dr Ting Chew Peh who is the Housing and Local Government Minister.

They were formerly Deputy Ministers of Defence and Science, Technology and Environment and in the Prime Minister's Department respectively.

The MP for Kulim Bandar, Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, makes a comeback to the Government as the Deputy Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs. He was once the Deputy Foreign Minister in the 1986 line-up.

Other new Deputy Ministers are Mohd Yasin Kamari (Rural Development), Datuk Wong See Wah and Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Hamid Haji Othman (Prime Minister's Department), Tengku Datuk Mahmud Mansor (Primary Industries), Datuk Peter Tinggom anak Kamarau and Kerk Choo Ting (Works Ministry), Dr Fong Chan Onn (Education), Datuk Chan Kong Choy (Culture, Arts and Tourism) and Peter Chin Fah Kui (Science, Technology and Environment).

Asked to comment on the possibility of more MIC appointees to the Cabinet, Dr Mahathir said: "We are still negotiating for these posts."

Trade and Industry in Cabinet