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Mahathir-appointments

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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 14, (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has appointed two new parliamentary secretaries and transferred a current parliamentary secretary to another ministry, the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid said today.

He said in a statement that Senator Dr Sak Cheng Lum had been made Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs and Tapah MP Datuk K. Kumaran the Parliamentary Secretary to the Health Ministry.

The current Parliamentary Secretary to the Health Ministry, Encik Ong Ka Ting, has been transferred to the Home Ministry as its Parliamentary Secretary, he added.

The appointments will take effect on Feb 25. The handing over of the letters of appointment and the oath-taking ceremony will be held on Feb 27 at the Prime Minister's Office, he said.

Senator Dr Sak, 46, had been a member of the Pulau Pinang state executive council. He was appointed a senator for three years from Feb 2. -- more

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Datuk Kumaran, 46, had been a senator from 1979 to 1985 and was also a member of the Perak State Legislative Assembly.

Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji also announced the transfer of several senior government officers:

Risda director-general Datuk Hassan Ibrahim, 52, is being made Staff Officer to the Chairman of the Felda Group of Companies.

Director of Agriculture in the Economic Planning Unit, Dr Abdul Aziz Mohamed Yaacob, 44, is being made director-general of the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Fama), succeeding Encik Ahmad Tokimin who is being made the Edah Director in the Prime Minister's Department. Datuk Yaacob A. Hamid, 44, is being transferred to the Treasury as Secretary, Tax Analysis Division. He will be succeeded by the Secretary of the Supply Division, Defence Ministry, Encik Abdul Jalil Mohamed Ali, 45.

Former General Manager of the Kelantan State Economic Development Corporation, Encik Jaafar Abu Bakar, is being made the Deputy Secretary-General, Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs -- a newly created post.

These transfers are effective Saturday.

Meanwhile, Encik Cheah Kong Wai, 45, Deputy Director (Special), Public Services Department, will assume the post of Deputy Secretary-General, Ministry of Transport, on March 1. -- Bernama

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