

Dompok appointed Minister

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Parti Demokratik Sabah president Datuk Bernard Giluk Dompok has been appointed Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

In announcing this today, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad also said Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat (Akar) deputy president Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitin-gan has been made Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister.

They will be sworn in before Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar next week.

Speaking after launching this year's National Occupational Safety and Health Campaign here organised by the Human Resources Ministry, Dr Mahathir said their duties had been determined.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had announced during his visit to the State on June 24 that Dompok and Jeffrey would be given Federal Cabinet posts but he did not reveal their portfolios.

Dompok is also MP for Pemampung and State Assemblyman for Moyog. Jeffrey is State Assemblyman

for Bingkor. He will be made a senator to enable him to assume the Deputy Minister's post.

In Kota Kinabalu, Dompok said he would reveal his plan of action as Minister in the Prime Minister's Department after he has taken his oath of office.

"Until then I think its premature for me make any comment," he said when contacted at his residence in Penampang near here.

However, Dompok said he

has yet to be notified about his areas of jurisdiction in the Prime Minister's Department.

Jeffrey hoped he would be able to enhance a continued cordial relationship between the State and Federal Government now that he is one of the leaders at Federal level.

"My priority is to make sure that I will be able to improve upon it and achieve the target set by the Government so that the people can

benefit," he said.

Jeffrey said he was looking forward to his new appointment and pledged to do his part in ensuring that the people of Sabah, regardless of race and religion, stay united in the Barisan Nasional.

Parti Demokratik Sabah (PDS) deputy president Datuk Wilfred Mojilip Bum-buring hoped the strained State and Federal relationship would be a thing in the past.

Barisan Nasional component parties' leaders in Sabah welcomed the appointments.

Umno information chief Karim Ghani said the appointments were good for the people of Sabah and hoped this would be the beginning of everlasting political stability in the State.

He said with the two leaders now in the Federal Government, the people of Sabah would look forward for their roles in bringing more development to the State.

PDS vice-president Datuk Stephen Kutai said Dompok's appointment would augur well for the people of Sabah, especially the Kadazan/Dusun community.