

06 JUN 1997

Abu Hassan-Oath

ABU HASSAN OMAR SWORN-IN AS MENTERI BESAR OF SELANGOR

KLANG, June 6 (Bernama) -- Datuk Abu Hassan Omar was today sworn-in as the eighth Menteri Besar of Selangor before the state's Sultan at a ceremony at Istana Alam Shah here.

Abu Hassan, 56, replaces Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib who resigned on April 14 after being charged in an Australian court for a currency offence in that country.

The Sultan, accompanied by the Cik Puan Besar Selangor, Datuk Amar Siti Aishah, later presented the letter of appointment to Abu Hassan.

State executive councillors named by Abu Hassan earlier today also took their oath and received their appointment letters at the ceremony, except for Dr Pius Martin, who is currently abroad.

The Raja Muda of Selangor, state assemblymen and heads of government departments were also present.

In his pledge of loyalty, Abu Hassan said the industrial sector would continue to be the main contributor to Selangor's economic growth.

He said the new state government would give priority to efforts to woo more foreigners to invest in that sector, especially in the field of information technology.

The state government would also develop new growth areas and industrial sites outside the Klang Valley to provide wider and more affordable space for small and medium industries, he added.

Abu Hassan also said the state would go for balanced development and ensure that there was no negative effect on the environment.

Abu Hassan, who was chosen as the new Menteri Besar by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, contested the Permatang state seat in a by-election to enable him to become an assemblyman, a requirement for holding the post.

In the by-election on May 29, he easily defeated PAS candidate Mohd Maskuri Mardzuki with a 7,780-vote majority. -- BERNAMA

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