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Anwar gets two new political secretaries

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Twenty-nine-year-old former deputy director of the Policy Research Institute Mohamad Ezam Mohd Noor has been appointed political secretary to Finance Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He is one of two people appointed political secretaries to Anwar recently. The other is Universiti Sains Malaysia's former head of the centre for policy research Prof Mansor Othman who is serving Anwar in his role as Deputy Prime Minister.

Mohamad Ezam is the youngest political secretary currently in service.

A close aide to Anwar who confirmed this said today the swearing-in ceremony before Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be held soon but no date had been fixed.

"Their appointments took effect recently and they have started work," he said.

Mohamad Ezam, the father of one and an Economics graduate from the International Islamic University, is the Petaling Jaya Selatan Umno Youth chief and the youngest councillor in the Petaling Jaya Municipal Council.

Mansor replaces Member of Parliament for Shah Alam Datuk Salamon Selamat who resigned as Anwar's political secretary last May.

Salamon, 48, had said that his resignation was to concentrate on his other responsibilities as MP, Umno divisional chief and chairman of Shah Alam Barisan Nasional as well as business interests.

Salamon was later disqualified from contesting for one of the supreme council seats in last year's Umno elections for alleged involvement in money politics.

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