

11 JUN 1997

Sanusi-Exco

TWO-MONTH EXTENSION FOR KEDAH EXCO MEMBERS

ALOR SETAR, June 11 (Bernama) -- The one-year tenure of the 10 Kedah state executive councillors which expires this month has been extended for another two months as Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid has not decided on their position.

They would continue to serve in their present portfolios until Aug 2.

Sanusi said the swearing-in for the second term would be held on Aug 3 before the Sultan of Kedah.

The present exco line-up was appointed for a year in June last year, which according to Sanusi was to assess their work performance.

Asked whether any of them would be dropped, he said he had not thought about it.

"I haven't thought about it...maybe I will make a decision during my leave beginning next week," he told reporters after chairing the weekly state executive council meeting here today.

Sanusi had hinted earlier that he would reshuffle the portfolios to suit the abilities of the executive councillors.

He also said the state government would issue the approval letters to three companies undertaking the RM30 billion land reclamation project along the Kedah coast.

Samudera Baru Darul Aman Sdn Bhd had been awarded the project to develop a petrochemical project and an international airport while SKS Venture Sdn Bhd would build a seaport.

Sayak Beach Sdn Bhd would develop housing, recreational and tourism spots on a 12,000ha reclaimed land, he said.

"With the issuance of the approval letters, the companies can start work in three months," he said.

The 100km-long reclamation project touted the world's biggest is expected to be completed by the year 2020.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had sent a fax from England last week asking the state government to expedite the project.

-- BERNAMA

MZM TS