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Press secretary appointed PM's special assistant

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - The Prime Minister's Press secretary Mohd Hashim Makaruddin has been appointed special assistant to the Prime Minister effective today.

He replaces Datuk Jalaluddin Bahaudin who retired last year.

Hashim, 48, had served as the Press secretary to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad since 1991. He was once the Press secretary to the then Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin.

Hashim's position as Press secretary is filled by the former assistant Press secretary, Zakaria Abdul Wahab.

Zakaria, 40, was assistant news editor (business and economic desk) of Bernama before he joined the Prime Minister's office in 1992.

Both Hashim and Zakaria are seconded to the Prime Minister's Department from Bernama.

Zakaria's position as assistant Press secretary has been filled by former New Straits Times journalist, Sufi Yusoff, 27, who joined the NST as a cadet reporter in 1991. He had also served the NST branch in Kuala Terengganu for three years.

Sufi returned to Kuala Lumpur in 1997 and was a reporter with the Crime and Defence Desk and later with the General News Desk.

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