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Abdullah-Promise

ABDULLAH PROMISES TO DISCHARGE HIS DUTIES WITH FULL DEDICATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 8 (Bernama) -- Newly-appointed Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi tonight promised to discharge his duties as best he can and with full decidation.

Thanking Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his trust, Abdullah said he was overcome and surprised by the appointment.

Dr Mahathir, who announced the appointment after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting, here, tonight, also appointed Abdullah as Home Minister.

Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar takes over from Abdullah as Foreign Minister.

Abdullah told reporters: "I was surprised because my other colleagues considered for the post by the prime minister are just as capable."

Abdullah said he needed Dr Mahathir's guidance in discharging his new duties and responsibilities.

"I also hope for guidance from the prime minister who is very experienced in administrative matters," he said.

Abdullah, an Umno vice-president, also said that he hoped to get cooperation from his colleagues in the cabinet.

-- BERNAMA

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