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It's Perdana for Perak's Exco members

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IPOH, Wed. - The new State Executive Council members will be getting a Proton Perdana V6 Executive each for their official use before the new year, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali said today.

Providing a local make instead of the normal Mercedes Benz was intended to save cost, apart from promoting the use of locally made products.

Initially, only new Exco members would be provided with cars, but eventually the others too would need to change their Mercedes for a Proton, including the Menteri Besar.

Speaking to reporters after chairing his first Executive Council meeting today, Tajol Rosli said the State Financial Officer would be reviewing the provision of cars for the Exco members.

"Even though fuel consumption is almost the same for a Mercedes and a Perdana, the maintenance cost for a Perdana is much cheaper," he said.

Today's Executive Council meeting was the first after the formation of the new State Government following the Nov 29 election.

Ten Exco members attended the meeting, including four new faces. The new councillors are Jamal Nasir Rasdi (Youth and Sports and Human Resource Development Committee chairman); Ho Cheng Wang (Health, Science, Technology and Environment); Aionon Khairiyah Mohd Abas (Rural and Community Development); and Datuk Azman Mahlan (Agriculture).

The six Exco members who have been retained are Datuk Mazidah Zakaria (Culture, Arts, Tourism and Women Affairs); Datuk Chang Ko Youn (Urban Development and Local Government); Datuk Ong Ka Chuan (Public Utilities and Infrastructure); Datuk Ramly Zahari (Entrepreneur and Industrial Development and Information); Datuk Dr Abdul Malek Hanafiah (Religious Affairs and Education); and Datuk G. Rajoo (Unity and Consumer Affairs).

Tajol Rosli will be in charge of Development, Economic Planning, Finance, Privatisation, Security, Housing and Land Development.

He also said all new Exco members had been directed to relinquish their business interests and to declare their assets as soon as possible.

"I will keep a copy of their declaration and submit another copy to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"As required I will also declare my assets to Dr Mahathir," he said.

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