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Profile-Fong

FONG REPLACES AH LEK AS HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTER

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 10 (Bernama) -- After having served as a deputy minister for nine years, Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn was promoted to full minister in Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's new Cabinet announced by the Prime Minister today.

The former Deputy Education Minister was appointed the new Human Resources Minister succeeding Datuk Lim Ah Lek who did not seek re-election in the Nov 29 general election.

Fong, 46, and a former academician, was among five deputy ministers made full ministers in the new cabinet line-up.

Prior to joining the federal administration in October 1990, Dr Fong was Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya.

He started as a lecturer there in 1974 and later held several senior positions. He has a Ph.D in operations research and industrial economics from the University of Rochester in New York.

In 1980 Dr Fong was a Fulbright Exchange Professor of the Graduate School of Business of Stanford University in California.

The year before he served as a Japan Foundation Fellow at the Institute of Developing Economics.

He resigned from the university dean post and contested and won the Selandar parliamentary seat in Melaka on the Barisan Nasional ticket in the 1990 general election.

He subsequently retained the seat in both the 1995 and this year's general elections.

In last August's MCA general assembly, Dr Fong retained the MCA vice-presidency, a post he held since 1996.

He was also the party's economics bureau chairman.

Negeri Sembilan-born Dr Fong and wife Datin Tan Lay Hwa have three children.

-- BERNAMA

NHD HS RYN