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Four new faces in Malacca line-up

MALACCA, Tues. - Three Umno division leaders and a State MCA leader are expected to be sworn in as State executive councillors at Istana Melaka tomorrow morning.

The four - Datuk Amid Nordin (Kota Melaka Umno chief), Datuk Hamdin Abdollah (Selandar Umno chief), Datuk Abdul Azis Ghani (Jasin Umno deputy chief) and Datuk Seah Kwi Tong (State MCA treasurer) - will take their oath of office together with four other State exco members who have been retained.

They will be sworn in before the State Yang diPertua, Tun Syed Ahmad Shahabuddin, at 10am.

Exco members who have been retained are Datuk Ahmad Hamzah, Datuk Mo'min Abdul Aziz, Datuk Poh Ah Tiam, and Datuk Ibrahim Durum.

Seah, a third-term State Assemblyman, will replace Datuk Wira Gan Boon Leong.

The latter had declined an offer to be re-appointed as executive councillor.

Gan, who cited health problems as among the reasons for declining the offer, however will remain as State party chief.

It is believed that MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik had endorsed Seah as Gan's replacement.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam today had an audience with Syed Ahmad Shahabuddin with regard to the exco line-up at Istana Melaka at 11am.

Later, talking to reporters, he said Syed Ahmad had given his blessing to the line-up.

Mohd Ali also said Barisan Nasional president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had endorsed the names yesterday.

He however declined to name them, saying that their names would only be revealed during the ceremony.

Sources said Mohd Ali, who is also State Barisan Nasional chairman, picked the four new faces due to their vast contributions and political experiences.

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