

02 DEC 1999

Melaka-Exco

MOHAMED ALI TO NAME STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS NEXT WEEK

MELAKA, Dec 2 (Bernama) -- New Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohamed Ali Rustam will name his executive council members next week after getting approval from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"There will be both new and old faces in the State Executive Council," he said at his first news conference as Chief Minister.

Three Melaka State Executive Councillors did not seek re-election in the recent General Election -- Datuk Yassin Mohamed Sarif, Datuk Nordin Yaani and Datuk Mohamed Sharif Mohamed Drus.

Apart from filling these vacancies, a new Speaker for the Melaka State Assembly will also have to be appointed as the previous Speaker Datuk Nasir Manap was not renominated as a candidate in the election.

The previous Melaka State Executive Council had eight members -- six from Umno and two from the MCA.

Five members of the previous Executive Council who took part in the election and won are Datuk Ahmad Hamzah, Datuk Ibrahim Durum, Datuk Momin Abdul Aziz, Datuk Poh Ah Tiam and Datuk Wira Gan Boon Leong.

Mohd Ali said he would stress on an efficient and quality administration for Melaka.

"The new administration will continue with efforts to realise Melaka's vision of becoming a developed state by 2010," he said.

He said Melaka would be promoted aggressively as a shopping and convention centre and there would be rapid development of the tourist and industrial sectors.

The services sector and ancillary industries would also be expanded, the Chief Minister said.

"I hope for support and help from civil servants as well as their advice...they can advise me at anytime," he added.

He said support from everyone in the administration as well as the people was important to bring Melaka's development to greater heights.

Mohamed Ali took his oath of office as Melaka's ninth Chief Minister earlier in the day.

--BERNAMA

MOZ MYD AAM