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Shahidan-Pledge

SHAHIDAN PLEDGES TO WREST SEATS LOST TO OPPOSITION

KANGAR, Dec 5 (Bernama) -- Wrestling back state seats lost to the opposition in last Monday's general election is among the pledges made by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim.

Shahidan said he would work towards strengthening the state Barisan Nasional (BN) and making early preparations for the next general election in order to achieve this.

He told this to Bernama when contacted in Kuala Lumpur today.

In the 10th general election held last Nov 29, PAS won the Guar Sanji, Sanglang and Santan constituencies in the 15-seat state legislative assembly. The rest went to the BN.

Thanking Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for reappointing him as Menteri Besar, Shahidan said the move had also put an end to political speculations in Perlis.

At a media conference in Jitra today, Dr Mahathir announced that Shahidan would remain as Perlis Menteri Besar and his letter of appointment had been issued.

"I thanked the Prime Minister for having the confidence in me," said Shahidan.

Shahidan said he would seek an audience with the Raja of Perlis on Tuesday and took his oath of office the next day.

The swearing in of state executive councillors is expected on Dec 14.

Shahidan, 48, is the Perlis Menteri Besar since 1995. In the last general election, he retained the Tambun Tulang seat defeating Haji Ismail Ahmad of PAS.

-- BERNAMA

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