

10/12/1999

Shahidan sworn in as MB again

Shahrum Sayuthi

ARAU, Thurs. - Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim was today sworn in for a second term as Menteri Besar in front of Raja Perlis Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalulail at Istana Arau.

Shahidan, 48, took his oath of office in a simple ceremony, which was also attended by Raja Perempuan Perlis Tuanku Budriah and Raja Muda Perlis Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin.

Also present were newly-elected State Assembly members, community leaders and other dignitaries.

Speaking after the ceremony, Shahidan thanked the people of Perlis for their endorsement of the Barisan Nasional State Government by electing it back into office during the recent general election.

"I would also like to express my gratitude to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for entrusting me to once again lead the newly formed State Government."

Shahidan, who is the State BN chairman, led the party to a successful electoral defence of the State by winning 12 of 15 State seats and making a clean sweep of all three Parliament constituencies.

On the selection of the new executive council line-up, Shahidan said five recently-elected BN State Assemblymen had been chosen for the posts.

"Their names have been approved by Dr Mahathir," he said.

Shahidan said it was decided that the line-up should be smaller but more experienced, particularly due to the presence of three representatives from the Opposition in the State Assembly.

"We need to be more effective because now we have to deal with the Opposition members," he said.

The former State executive council has six members.

Shahidan, however, declined to name the five State executive council members.

(END)