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State Exco members to be known by next week

MALACCA, Thurs. - The line-up of new Malacca executive councillors would be revealed next week, newly-appointed Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Mohd Rustam said.

"I will be meeting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the next few days to get his blessing on the State's exco line-up.

"We hope to form a State Government by next week," he said after taking his oath of office before the State Yang Di-Pertua Tun Syed Ahmad Shahabuddin at Istana Melaka today.

Mohd Ali, who is also State Barisan Nasional chairman replacing Datuk Seri Abu Zahar Isnin, said the State BN would win back the parliamentary and State seats lost to the Opposition in the election.

The DAP won the Kota Melaka parliamentary, and the State seats of Durian Daun, Tengkeru, Bandar Hilir and Bachang.

Attributing BN's loss in Malacca to "technical mistakes and last-minute campaigning" by some candidates, he said. However, he was pleased with the overall results.

The BN won four parliamentary and 21 State seats in the election.

Malacca has always been the BN's safe State, Mohd Ali said, adding that he would hold frequent meetings with Umno and BN leaders to work on their weaknesses.

"I hope the wakil rakyat and party workers will work hard to convince the people to support the BN. Work must start right now."

A post-mortem on the election results would be held soon, he added.

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