

12 JAN 1999

Ministers

TAJOL, ZAHARAH, IBRAHIM SWORN IN

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 12 (Bernama) -- Datuk Tajol Rosli Ghazali and Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman took their oath of office and allegiance as ministers in the Prime Minister's Department before the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar at Istana Negara here today.

Senator Datuk Ibrahim Ali was also sworn in as Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department at the ceremony.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali, Senate President Tan Sri Mohamed Yaacob and Dewan Rakyat Speaker Mohamed Zahir Ismail were present.

Tajol Rosli, 55, was promoted from Deputy Home Minister and Siti Zaharah, 50, from Deputy Health Minister and Ibrahim, 48, appointed deputy minister in a Cabinet reshuffle announced by Dr Mahathir last Friday.

They also received their letters of appointment from Tuanku Ja'afar.

The reshuffle saw Abdullah, then Foreign Minister, being appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister as well as portfolio changes involving several other ministers and deputy ministers.

When approached by reporters later, Tajol Rosli said he was grateful and thanked Dr Mahathir for the prime minister's confidence in him.

"I pray to God to let me discharge my responsibilities to the best of my ability for the country's sake," he said.

Siti Zaharah said she had not been briefed about her duties at the PM's Department and was very excited about attending her first Cabinet meeting tomorrow.

Ibrahim, who had formerly served as Parliamentary Secretary of the Rural Development Ministry for four months from February to May 1995, pledged to be trustworthy and sincere in accomplishing his tasks.

-- BERNAMA

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