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Fuad is Bernas' new deputy group MD

Eirmalasang Bani

PADIBERAS Nasional Bhd (Bernas) has announced the appointment of Ahmad Fuad Abdul Wahab as deputy group managing director of corporate services and other businesses, effective December 1.

This is the second announcement made by Bernas following the appointment of another deputy group managing director for rice business Yahya Abu Bakar in October this year.

These appointments have further strengthened talks that Bernas group managing director Mohd Ibrahim Mohd Nor will leave his current post to concentrate on a newly-formed media organisation.

Bernas, the custodian of Malaysian rice industry, took over Lembaga Padi dan Beras Negara's role when the latter was privatized on January 18 1996.

Talks of Mohd Ibrahim leaving Bernas began when Lembaran Budi Sdn Bhd submitted a proposal to bid for Radio Televisyen Malaysia 2 (RTM2), several radio stations, national news agency Bernama, Filem Negara Malaysia and the National Film Development Corp.

Lembaran Budi is jointly owned by Mohd Ibrahim, Bernama chairman Datuk Abdul Kadir Jasin and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's former secretary Datuk Jalaluddin Bahaudin.

Mohd Ibrahim had also reportedly proposed to buy a stake in Sistem Televisyen Malaysia Bhd (STMB) which runs one of Malaysia's private television channel, TV3. He was appointed STMB director effective last Friday.

The sources said once Mohd Ibrahim resigns from his current post in Bernas, he will continue to serve as deputy chairman and play a non-executive role in the company. This is because Mohd Ibrahim is also a minority shareholder in Budaya Generasi (M) Sdn Bhd, the holding company in Bernas.

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