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Mohd Khir: We need to work as a team

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SHAH ALAM, Sat. - The main priority of newly-appointed Menteri Besar Dr Mohd Khir Toyo is to get all State Executive Councillors, Barisan Nasional Assemblymen and component party leaders to work as a team for the State's development and realising Vision 2005.

"All personal agendas must be put aside and everyone must work hard for the development of the State besides fostering unity and harmony among all races."

Dr Mohd Khir, 35, who is Tanjung Karang Umno division Youth chief, said he would also seriously focus on youth problems.

"As a youth, I know their sentiments and feelings on issues, including politics.

"I will work hard to make them realise, especially those who have gone astray, on the importance they play in the country and State's development, and also of the need for them to struggle for their race and religion."

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had entrusted him with a heavy responsibility and he would do everything within his capability to uphold the expectations of the leaders, party, State and country.

He said he needed the strong support and co-operation of the abang (elder brothers) in Umno to successfully administer the State Government and implement all the development programmes and activities.

Dr Mohd Khir, who paid a courtesy call on former Menteri Besar Abu Hassan Omar at the Menteri Besar's official residence in Bukit Megawati this morning, said he had been informed of his swearing-in as the Menteri Besar at Istana Alam Shah on Thursday.

Asked whether he would change the State Exco line-up, Dr Mohd Khir said he had more important things to look into first.

On whether Datuk Dr Zainal Abidin Ahmad would be retained as the Deputy Menteri Besar, he said, it was too early to say anything.

"All I need is for a strong and united team to help me."

When told he was seen as a reserved person, he said: "I prefer talking less but do more work. I want to make my stand very clear that I have an open-door policy."

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