

# Chong ready to be sworn in on Tuesday

STAR

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KOTA KINABALU Incoming Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat is ready with his 10-member Cabinet line up to be sworn in on Tuesday

I've already finalised everyone will have a role to play Chong said yesterday when asked how his Cabinet was shaping up

He declined to say more although he indicated that he might maintain the system of keeping three deputy chief ministers and replace one or two ministers

Chong is expected to bring back a couple of former ministers to his Cabinet scheduled to be sworn in at Istana Negara before Yang di Pertua Negara Tun Sakaran Dandai on Tuesday morning

Sabah Barisan Nasional leaders do not expect any hindrance to the swearing in ceremony although a suit was filed by three businessmen in High Court on Thursday to block Chong from taking office

It is politically motivated. It is not right for anyone to do such a thing said former deputy chief minister Tan Sri Joseph Kurup who is the Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah president

Chong of the Liberal Democratic Party was named by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mo

hammad on March 16 to replace Datuk Osu Sukam of Umno under a revised two year rotation system

Dr Mahathir who is making his second trip to Sabah within six weeks today revised it to 2 1 1 where a Muslim bumiputra representative gets to serve twice for every term served by a Chinese and Kadazandusun representative

Component party supporters who were busy preparing for a gathering in the heartland of the Muruts in Tenom to welcome Dr Mahathir are

preoccupied with what he will say about his decision on the rotation

There are mixed feelings among Barisan leaders and their supporters some of whom were disappointed over the decision on the rotation

We expect some 20 000 people to turn up in Tenom to listen to our Prime Minister said state Culture Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Rubin Balang a Murut leader who is the organising chairman of the gathering

After arriving at the Kota Kinabalu airport at 10am Dr Mahathir will open the *Kongress Ekonomi Bumiputra 2001* and fly to Tenom in the Sabah interior where he will attend the meet the people gathering at 3pm

After that he will launch the proposed Tenom Beaufort road project

In the evening he will attend a dinner with state leaders at Hotel Perkasa and then meet with the Keningau and Tenom Umno division members

Tomorrow morning he will open the Sabah Agricultural Park at Lagud Sebrang near Tenom

He will return to the capital for the foundation stone ceremony of the new federal building before leaving for Kuala Lumpur the same day