

16 MAR 2001

CHONG IS SABAH'S 12TH CHIEF MINISTER SINCE INDEPENDENCE

KOTA KINABALU, March 16 (Bernama) -- Datuk Chong Kah Kiat, 53, succeeds Datuk Datuk Osu Sukam as Sabah's 12th Chief Minister since independence through Malaysia in 1963.

Chong, who is State Minister of Tourism, Environment, Science and Technology in Osu's Cabinet, was named Chief Minister by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur today.

The late Tun Mohd Fuad Stephens was Sabah's first Chief Minister and he was the only Chief Minister who held the post on two occasions from Sept 16, 1963 to Dec 31, 1964 and from April 14, 1976 to June 6, 1976, when he was killed in an air crash in Sembulan near here.

Here is the full list of Sabah Chief Ministers:

1. Tun Mohd Fuad Stephens (Sept 16, 1963 to Dec 21, 1964 and from April 14, 1976 to June 6, 1976)
2. Tan Sri Peter Lo (1 Jan 1965 to 31 Jan 1967)
3. Tun Datu Haji Mustapha bin Datu Harun (11 May 1967 to 31 Oct 1975)
4. Tun Haji Mohd Said Keruak (1 Nov 1975 to 13 April 1976)
5. Datuk Harris Salleh (7 June 1976 to 15 March 1985)
6. Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan (22 April 1985 to 16 March 1994)
7. Tun Sakaran Dandai (17 March 1994 to 27 Dec 1994)
8. Datuk Salleh Tun Said (28 Dec 1994 to 27 May 1996)
9. Datuk Yong Teck Lee (28 May 1996 to 27 May 1998)
10. Tan Sri Bernard Dompok (28 May 1998 to 13 March 1999)
11. Datuk Osu Sukam (14 March 1999 -)
12. Datuk Chong Kah Kiat (named Chief Minister today, March 16, 2001).

-- BERNAMA

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