

31/01/2001

Two Ministers, two deputy ministers sworn in

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Two Ministers and two Deputy Ministers were today sworn in before the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah at the Istana Negara here.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Badawi witnessed the swearing-in ceremony.

The two Ministers were Women Affairs Minister Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Abdul Hamid Zainal Abidin.

Shahrizat was previously Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department while Abdul Hamid, a retired brigadier-general, was director-general of the Malaysian Islamic Development Department (Jakim). He was made a Senator last Tuesday to enable him to hold the ministerial post.

Abdul Hamid succeeds Datuk Dr Abdul Hamid Othman who has resigned and appointed as Religious Adviser to the Prime Minister.

The two deputy ministers were Umno executive secretary Senator Datuk Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor (Prime Minister's Department) and People's Progressive Party (PPP) President Senator Datuk M. Kayveas (Housing and Local Government Ministry).

Their appointments were announced on Jan 17.

Also present were Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tun Mohamed Zahir Ismail, Dewan Negara President Datuk Michael Chen, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali, Chief Justice of the Federal Court (CJ) Tan Sri Mohamed Dzaiddin Abdullah and Attorney General Datuk Ainum Mohd Saaid.

Meanwhile, hundreds of PPP members gathered outside the palace as a show of support for Kayveas.

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