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PM: New Tenaga chairman will be named soon

LANGKAWI, Sat. - The man to take over from Datuk Dr Jamaludin Jarjis as chairman of Tenaga Nasional Berhad has already been selected. Jamaludin resigned after being made Second Finance Minister.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the Government would announce the appointment soon.

Asked who the new chairman would be, Dr Mahathir replied: "I cannot give you (the name) because I got to get this thing done properly and officially."

The Prime Minister was speaking to reporters at the peak of the 708-metre Gunung Machinchang during his one-day visit to Langkawi.

Jamaludin who was made Second Finance Minister on Nov 21, resigned as Tenaga Nasional chairman on the same day.

Meanwhile, industry sources said former Bank Negara assistant governor Datuk Dr Awang Adek Hussin was expected to take over as chairman of the utility.

Awang Adek, 47, joined Bank Negara as a senior economist in the economics department in 1985. He was promoted to the acting assistant manager in 1986 before becoming assistant manager in 1987.

In 1992, he became the manager of the economics department and in 1994 appointed manager of bank regulation department.

Two years later, Awang Adek who was then Adviser to Bank Negara was elevated to the post of assistant governor.

Awang Adek had also served as the director-general of the Labuan Offshore Financial Services Authority.

In June last year, Awang Adek resigned from Bank Negara to be actively involved in politics.

He was later elected as Bachok Umno division deputy chairman.

Earlier, there were speculations on two others as chairman of Tenaga Nasional.

They were former Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Tan Sri Megat Junid Megat Ayob and Datuk Mohd Annas Mohd Nor, the chairman of the Malaysian Energy Commission.