

22/11/2002

DPM: Dr M informed me of decision to appoint Jamaludin

KEPALA BATAS, Thurs. - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had informed Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi of the decision to appoint Datuk Dr Jamaludin Jarjis as Second Finance Minister.

The Deputy Prime Minister said he had concurred with the Prime Minister's choice of candidate for the post as he did with the other appointments on Tuesday.

Dr Mahathir promoted Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, to Minister in the Prime Minister's Department besides elevating Parliamentary Secretary to the Information Ministry, Datuk Zainuddin Maidin, to the post of Deputy Minister in the same ministry.

"I agreed with his decision and not just for the Second Finance Minister post, but also on his choices for the other posts," Abdullah said after attending the breaking of fast with about 1,000 people, including a group of 10 Islamic religious scholars from Al-Azhar University, at Surau Permatang Manggis here.

"Dr Mahathir informed me in the past of his intention to appoint a second Finance Minister and that he wanted to think of a suitable candidate. Recently, he informed me that he had made up his mind."

Abdullah said this when asked to comment on claims by certain quarters that Dr Mahathir did not consult him over the appointment of Jamaludin as Second Finance Minister.