

07 JAN 2004

ABDULLAH-NOR

NOR MOHAMED YAKCOP APPOINTED SECOND FINANCE MINISTER

PUTRAJAYA, Jan 7 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop has been appointed Second Finance Minister, replacing Datuk Dr Jamaludin Jarjis, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi announced here today.

Speaking at a press conference to announce a cabinet reshuffle, he said that Nor Mohamed, who was economic adviser to the Prime Minister on financial matters since Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, would take office this Friday.

Formerly Bank Negara adviser, his career at the central bank began in 1968 before leaving in 1994 and was later made special adviser to the central bank in September 1998.

Abdullah, who is also Finance Minister, said that Nor Mohamed was the right person for the post given his long years of experience.

"I need a minister who can assist me and be always at the ministry as a lot of work needs to be done at the ministry currently," he said.

Abdullah, who also holds the Home Ministry portfolio, said as someone who does not have to seek political support, Nor Mohamed could "devote his time to monitor the economy and streamline what needs to be streamlined."

"He can serve in a professional manner at the ministry," he said. --

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