

Sidek appointed Chief Secretary to Government



Sidek's term of office takes effect on Sunday

KUALA LUMPUR: International Trade and Industry Ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan has been appointed Chief Secretary to the Government.

His term in the highest position in the civil service takes effect on Sunday, the Prime Minister's office said in a statement yesterday.

Sidek, 55, will take over from Tan Sri Samsudin Osman, whose term ends tomorrow;

The appointment had been the subject of speculation over the past few days, with Sidek as the front-runner.

He said he was prepared to take

on the job and responsibilities entrusted to him.

He said he had been in the civil service for many years, most of which were spent serving in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

"In Miti, we are open and transparent," he added.

"I will meet the Prime Minister tomorrow and will meet the media after that."

Sidek was born in Pekan, Pahang on June 24, 1951. He holds a degree in Economics with honours in Civil Administration from the University of Malaya and a Master's in Business Administra-

tion from New Hampshire College in New York.

He started serving as a diplomatic and administrative officer in 1974. His first position was as an assistant secretary at Miti;

He is experienced in Miti issues and has held many positions in the ministry.

He was Malaysian Trade Commissioner in Sydney, and Economic Affairs Advising Minister at the Malaysian embassy in Washington, DC.

He was appointed deputy secretary-general of the ministry in 2001 and then as secretary-general in 2004.