

Anwar leads MPs in oath-taking ceremony

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who is also Tambun member of Parliament (MP), led 222 members of the Dewan Rakyat in an oath-taking ceremony at the first meeting of the first session of the 15th Parliament, which started yesterday.

The swearing-in ceremony was followed by two deputy prime ministers, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi (Barisan Nasional [BN]-Bagan Datuk) and Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof (Gabungan Parti Sarawak [GPS]-Petra Jaya).

It then continued with the

line-up of Cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, parliamentary members of the government and parliamentary opposition members.

Two mentris besar and a chief minister were also sworn in as MPs, namely Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amiruddin Shaari (Pakatan Harapan [PH]-Gombak) and Negri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Aminuddin (PH-Port Dickson), and Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow (PH-Batu Kawan).

The Dewan Rakyat meeting became the focus exactly one month after the 15th general election

(GE15) was held on Nov 19, which saw Anwar appointed as the 10th prime minister and the establishment of a unity government.

The meeting was held to table and approve a special allocation or mini-budget to pay civil servants' emoluments from January.

The focus of the parliamentary meeting was also directed at the tabling of a motion of confidence to determine the legitimacy of the appointment of Anwar, who was sworn in as prime minister on Nov 24.

GE15, which was described as the

most intense the country had ever faced, ended in a hung Parliament, with no party obtaining a simple majority to form the new federal government.

PH won 82 seats, PN obtained 73, BN had 30, GPS took 22, Gabungan Rakyat Sabah had six and Warisan won three.

A unity government was formed as a result of a coalition of political parties including PH, BN, GPS, GRS and Warisan.

The Dewan Rakyat will sit for two days until today, while the Dewan Negara will convene for one day tomorrow. - Bernama



Anwar addressing the speaker at the Dewan Rakyat yesterday. - BERNAMAPIC