

Next posting for Tengku Zafrul to be announced tomorrow: PM

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz's next posting would be announced tomorrow, as he paid tribute to the performance of the outgoing investment, trade and industry minister.

Anwar described the leadership of Tengku Zafrul at Miti as "highly commendable", adding that his work over the past two years earned him national recognition.

"Tengku Zafrul will not be here for much longer. He still has responsibilities that cannot simply be set aside.

"The Miti minister will complete his term on Dec 2, and I will announce the next steps on Dec 3.

"This is also a recognition of his achievements. Over the past year or two, while I was attending to many tasks abroad, Miti and its team have performed exceptionally well under his leadership, demonstrating both excellence and strong values," he said at the launch of Perodua's new EV, the QV-E.

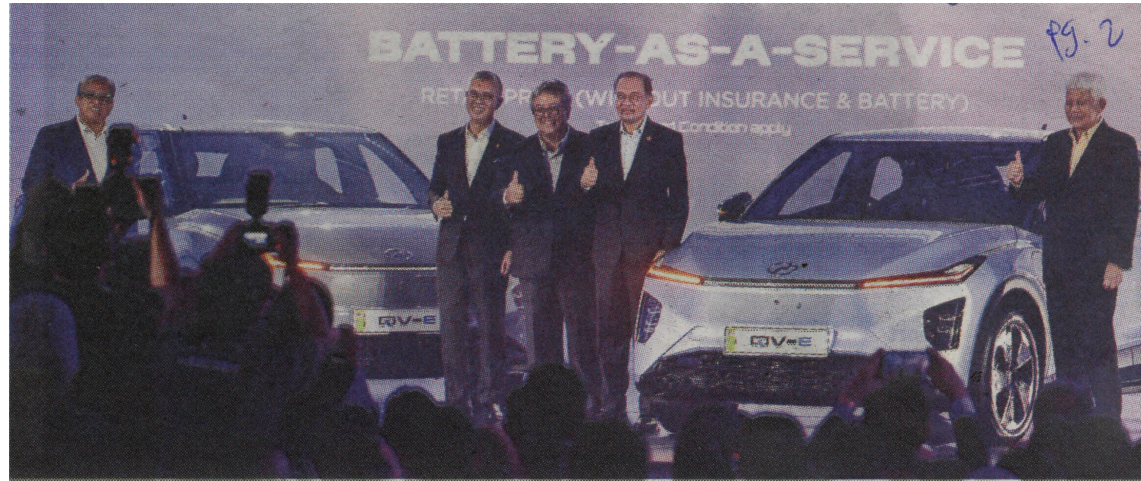
Tengku Zafrul, who has helmed Miti for three years, thanked the prime minister for the opportunity.

"It is time to move on, but I am confident the ministry will continue to thrive under capable hands."

When asked about his next role, he said he had yet to be briefed.

"As the prime minister mentioned, I have been given the chance to continue serving in whatever capacity is needed.

"I am also waiting to learn more. *Insyallah*, we would know about my new responsibilities soon."



Anwar poses for a photograph with Perodua CEO Zainal Abidin Ahmad (centre) and Tengku Zafrul next to QV-E vehicles during the launch. **-AFPIC**

Tengku Zafrul was first appointed senator in 2020 before joining the Cabinet under then-prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin. He continued to serve in subsequent administrations, including that led by Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

On Nov 13, he informed Anwar of his intention to support his successor once his tenure ends. His Cabinet position cannot be extended as he has already completed two terms in the Senate.

Meanwhile, Anwar said there was no need for a major Cabinet reshuffle.

"We need to fill a few vacancies. But considering this Cabinet would only be in place for another year and a half, a full reshuffle is not necessary.

"I am still considering the necessary steps, but filling these vacancies is essential."

Adjustments to the Unity government line-up are expected this month following the Sabah state election.

Key posts to be filled include the Miti portfolio vacated by Tengku Zafrul, the Economic Ministry, the Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Ministry and the Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development Ministry.

It has also been reported that the senatorships of Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution, Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambray Abdul Kadir and Religious Affairs Minister Datuk Dr Mohd Na'im Mokhtar end today. As first-term senators, they remain eligible for reappointment.

At the same event, Anwar lauded the QV-E launch; Malaysia's first

homegrown battery electric vehicle, calling it proof that local engineering capability could rise to global standards when backed by discipline, collaboration and a clear national vision.

The prime minister said the fully developed EV, delivered in just 28 months, marked a critical step in industrial renewal under the New Industrial Master Plan 2030.

"Some were anxious that Malaysia was too late in the technology race. But our partners have proven that even if we start behind, resilience and focus could close the gap. What Perodua has achieved is nothing short of remarkable." - **By Harith Kamal and Deepalakshmi Manickam**