

Khairy and Rahman among 12 new faces in cabinet
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KUALA LUMPUR: Twelve new faces made it into the government's newly-unveiled cabinet yesterday.

They make up a mix of not only Barisan Nasional veterans, but also a blend of young politicians and representation from the corporate sector.

The veterans include Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor and Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim, who will assume the Federal Territories Minister and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department posts, respectively, and also Datuk Hasan Malek, who is the new Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism minister.

However, all eyes are on new faces such as Khairy Jamaluddin, who is now Youth and Sports Minister, as well as Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan, who will head the Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Ministry.

Both men are known for their frequent interaction with social media users, and will bring a more youthful presence to the cabinet.

Also of interest is the appointment of Maybank president and chief executive officer Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar as Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

Wahid's appointment appears to follow the path first charted by Datuk Seri Idris Jala, who was Malaysia Airlines' chief executive officer before being appointed Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of the Performance Management and Delivery Unit (Pemandu).

All, save for Tengku Adnan, Shahidan and Hasan, are first-time ministers. Tengku Adnan served as Tourism Minister from 2006 to 2008, while Shahidan was Perlis Menteri Besar from 1995 to 2008.

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