

## **Cabinet Reshuffle Ensures Smooth Administration And National Development - BN Leaders Bernama July 28, 2015**

KUALA LUMPUR, July 28 (Bernama) -- The Cabinet reshuffle announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today is a positive effort by the country's number one leader to ensure a smooth administration and national development, said leading figures in the Barisan Nasional (BN).

They stressed that a stable and strong cabinet could help the country become a high-income developed nation by 2020.

Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein who retained his Defence Ministry portfolio said the cabinet reshuffle today must be seen rationally.

"All parties should not be emotional over the changes. It is to ensure that it does not affect the future of the nation," he said.

He said the decision by Najib (to reshuffle the Cabinet) was his right as Prime Minister, and all parties should comply by it.

"What is more important is that our country is safe and all parties should be smart in handling the political scenario today.

"We hope that everyone is not emotional in their judgments because if we make the wrong move, calamity will not only hit the party but also the nation," Hishammuddin added.

In KUALA TERENGGANU, Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman said he was fully confident of the actions taken by the prime minister, including appointing Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi as his deputy prime minister, replacing Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

"The appointments are the prerogative of the Prime minister, Najib knows what he is doing," he said.

Meanwhile, in GEORGE TOWN, Penang UMNO chief Datuk Seri Zainal Abidin Osman said the state UMNO fully supported the prime minister's decision to reshuffle the cabinet as it was to strengthen the country's leadership in tackling the challenges of managing the country before the 14th General Election.

Penang BN also described the cabinet reshuffle as a smart move to strengthen the party's position in preparation for the coming general election.

Penang BN chairman Teng Chang Yeow said the new cabinet line-up would benefit the people of Penang as there were more representatives.

In MELAKA, Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Seri Idris Haron said the appointment of Ahmad Zahid as the deputy prime minister will beef up the prime minister's administration in facing all types of challenges.

In general, Idris said, the reshuffle will inject new energy into Najib's team to lead the country into facing various challenges in the future.

In IPOH, Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir conveyed his congratulations to Ahmad Zahid, adding: "The people of Perak are happy and proud because he is the first child of the state to be appointed to the post of deputy prime minister."

A senior face from Perak in the new cabinet is Datuk Seri Ong Ka Chuan who was appointed Minister of International Trade and Industry II.

Meanwhile, Perak Barisan Nasional Backbenchers Club chairman Datuk Khusairi Abdul Talib said Ahmad Zahid's appointment as Deputy Prime Minister was an apt decision by the Prime Minister.

He said Ahmad Zahid was eligible for the post as he had a high level of loyalty for Najib's administration as UMNO President.

"In the current uncertain national political climate, the country's second leader must be with the Prime Minister in ensuring that he resolves them (the problems)," he said.

Meanwhile, in KOTA BAHARU, Kelantan UMNO chief Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said the appointment of two new deputy ministers from Kelantan in the new cabinet line-up today was a form of appreciation for the people and state BN.

"It is an acknowledgement of the experience and capabilities of Machang Member of Parliament Datuk Ahmad Jazlan Yaakub and Kelantan UMNO Religious Bureau Head Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki," he said.

Ahmad Jazlan was appointed as Deputy Minister of Rural and Regional Development while Asyraf Wajdi as Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

In KOTA KINABALU, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Musa Aman said Najib must have a lineup that fully supports and can work with him to not only develop the nation but has the collective responsibility to weather whatever prevailing and future challenges.

"This is a fundamental pre-requisite for any government anywhere in the world," he said.

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