

Busy First Day For Newly-Minted DPM Zahid Hamidi
Bernama
July 29, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, July 29 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi had his plate full on the first day as deputy prime minister, starting with his attendance at the swearing-in of new ministers and deputy ministers at the Istana Negara this morning.

At the swearing-in before the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, Ahmad Zahid joined Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak who announced a Cabinet reshuffle in Putrajaya yesterday.

After the event at the palace in the nation's capital, the Bagan Datoh MP headed to Putrajaya where he attended a Cabinet meeting chaired by Najib.

According to his aide, Ahmad Zahid, for the time being, would discharge his duties from his Home Ministry office in the federal administrative capital.

The Cabinet reshuffle saw the appointment of Ahmad Zahid as the new deputy prime minister replacing Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin. Four other ministers were also dropped and seven new ministers were appointed.

After the Cabinet meeting, Ahmad Zahid rushed to the Home Ministry for a special ceremony that gathered ministry personnel to mark his appointment as deputy prime minister.

His programme for today will conclude with an Aidilfitri gathering with police personnel and their families at the Desa Tasik police quarters' multipurpose hall in Sungai Besi.

Ahmad Zahid had said that his appointment as deputy prime minister was not a reward but a responsibility towards the nation and all races in Malaysia.

The UMNO vice-president said he would discharge his duties to the best of his ability.

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Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1156663>