

Ahmad Bashah Sworn In As Kedah Menteri Besar
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ALOR SETAR, Feb 4 (Bernama) -- Bakar Bata state assemblyman Datuk Seri Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah was sworn in today as the 12th menteri besar of Kedah, taking over from Datuk Seri Mukhriz Tun Mahathir who resigned yesterday.

Ahmad Bashah, 66, took his oath of office before three members of the Kedah Council of Regency led by its chairman, Tan Sri Tunku Sallehuddin Sultan Badlishah, at Istana Anak Bukit here.

The two other members of the council were Tan Sri Tunku Abdul Hamid Thani Sultan Badlishah and Tan Sri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah.

Also present at the ceremony were Education Minister and Padang Terap MP Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid; Deputy Defence Minister and Kubang Pasu MP Datuk Mohd Johari Baharum; state executive councillors; Kedah State Secretary Datuk Bakar Din and Kedah State Financial Officer Datuk Sepiah Isa.

Several other Kedah MPs and a number of state assemblymen also attended the ceremony. Mukhriz, who is the state assemblyman for Ayer Hitam, was not seen at the event.

Ahmad Bashah, who is deputy chairman of the Kedah UMNO Liaison Committee, was yesterday named as the new menteri besar after Mukhriz announced his resignation citing loss of majority support in the state legislative assembly.

Ahmad Bashah is one of the senior Kedah UMNO leaders. He has been the state assemblyman for Bakar Bata (previously known as Alor Merah) for five terms since 1995. He was also a state executive councillor for two terms, from 1999 to 2008.

After the 13th General Election, in 2013, Ahmad Bashah was appointed a senator and the deputy minister of domestic trade, cooperatives and consumerism. Yesterday, after he was named as the new menteri besar, he resigned from the two posts.

Ahmad Bashah is married to Datin Seri Hizam Awang Ahmad and they have four daughters.

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