

Hisham: My new task includes helping PM monitor Sabah's security
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The minister with special functions says he is not ready yet to publicly reveal his other tasks.

KUALA LUMPUR: One of the tasks of minister with special functions in the prime minister's department is helping Prime Minister Najib Razak monitor Sabah's security and the Eastern Sabah Security Command (Esscom), according to Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein.

He said this was among his new tasks (in the additional post), adding that he was not ready yet to publicly reveal his other tasks.

"My post as minister with special functions is to assist the PM by working closely with Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Sabah Chief Minister Musa Aman.

"All should be aware that the Eastern Sabah Security Zone (Esszone) monitoring committee is chaired by the PM himself, while the Esszone Advisory Board is jointly chaired by the DPM and Sabah chief minister."

Hishammuddin, who is also defence minister, told this to reporters after a corruption-free pledge-taking ceremony in conjunction with the ministry's monthly assembly at Wisma Perwira here.

Last Wednesday, Najib had announced Hishammuddin's appointment as minister with special functions in JPM.

At today's event, Hishammuddin also presented excellent service award certificates and medals to over 400 recipients from the ministry.

Also present were Deputy Defence Minister Mohd Johari Baharum, the ministry's secretary-general Abdul Rahim Mohamad Radzi, Malaysian Armed Forces chief General Raja Mohamed Affandi Raja Mohamed Noor and Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission chief commissioner Dzulkifli Ahmad.

In another development, Hishammuddin stressed that no party should try to cause friction between him and any top national leader following his appointment as minister with special functions.

He said this was because his relationship with the top national leaders, whether the PM, DPM or cabinet ministers, was already very close.

“I see that certain quarters have their own agenda and do not want to see us close ranks and to look ahead,” he added.

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