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15 picked for MDK firms

Politicians appointed to be chairmen, board members

THE government has appointed 15 politicians as chairmen and board members of Minister of Finance Incorporated (MKD) companies as of July this year, the Dewan Rakyat was told.

Among them is Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin who is chairman of Khazanah Nasional Bhd (Khazanah) and Yayasan Pelaburan Bumiputera.

Another politician is Senior Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali (Bersatu-Gombak) who is Khazanah director.

Others are Ramli Mohd Nor (BN-Cameron Highlands) as Amanah Raya chairman and Datuk Hasbullah Othman (BN-Gerik) as Syarikat Perumahan Negara Berhad chairman.

Datuk Jalaluddin Alias (BN-Jelebu) as UDA Holdings Bhd chairman, Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid (BN-Padang Terap) as chairman of Tenaga Nasional Berhad and Datuk Seri Hassan Arifin (BN-Rompin) as Pengurusan Aset Air Berhad chairman.

Sarawak's Datuk Seri Rohani Abdul Karim (GPS-Batang Lupar) was appointed as Padi Beras Nasional chairman, Datuk Seri Tajuddin Abdul Rahman (BN-Pasir Salak) as Prasarana Malaysia Bhd chairman, Datuk Zakaria Mohd Edris (Bersatu-Libaran) as Perbadanan Nasional Bhd chairman while Ahmad Johnie Zawawi (GPS-Igan) was appointed as Indah Water Konsortium Sdn Bhd chairman.

It also noted that Tan Sri Noh Omar (BN-Tanjung Karang) had been appointed as Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Bhd chair-

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The Finance Ministry

man and Sabri Azit (PAS-Jerai) as Malaysian Institute of Translation & Books chairman of the board of directors.

The reply also stated that Penang Umno chief Datuk Musa Sheikh Fadzir was appointed as the chairman of JKP Sdn Bhd while a PAS central committee member Mohamad Husain had been made a Felcra board member.

The Finance Ministry also said that out of 15 statutory bodies under the ministry, only two were headed by politicians.

They are Kedah Menteri Besar Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor and the state's Ayer Hangat assemblyman Juhari Bulat.

The reply, however, did not state the statutory body and the positions of the two.

The Finance Ministry explained that the appointment of the politicians in the MKD companies was based on their qualifications, expertise and their backgrounds, which was needed by the companies to allow the board members to operate at an optimum level.

“The appointment as directors, board members of the companies had also taken into consideration the background and the capabilities of each individual from various perspectives to join as the board members of the companies,” said the ministry responding to a question from Chan Foong Hin (PH-Kota Kinabalu).

Chan had asked the government to justify the appointments of politicians at various government-linked companies and statutory bodies under the Perikatan Nasional government.

The Finance Ministry said in principle, the rate of allowances and incentives eligible for the board members and chairmen varies according to the financial capabilities of each company.

“The amount of remuneration and incentives paid can be obtained from the company's audited financial statements submitted to the Companies Commission of Malaysia.

“As for the Federal Statutory Body, the allowance rate is subject to the respective recommendations and approvals of its board members as well as minister in charge,” it said.