

MR. ABURIZAL BAKRIE NOW ECONOMIC MINISTER OF INDONESIA

Mr. Aburizal Bakrie, Immediate Past Chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN Indonesia) was appointed by H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono newly elected and installed President of the Republic of Indonesia as senior Economics Minister.

Other key appointment are: Finance Minister Mr. Jusuf Anwar; Trade Minister Ms. Mari Pangestu; Industry Minister Mr. Andung Nitimiharjo; Oil Minister Mr. Purnomo Yusgiantoro; Planning Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati; State Enterprises Minister Mr. Sugiarto and Abdul Rahama Saleh, as Attorney General.

As Chairman of KADIN Indonesia Mr. Bakrie has been battling to have Indonesia as a conducive place for doing business. He said then that the unemployment problem is critical and creates great concern and the only way to solve it is to have the government develop a favorable investment climate.

He was further quoted then as saying that this effort will involve, among others, the improvement of labor related environment, tax reformation, improvement of security, strong law enforcement, and restructuring regional autonomy program as needed to meet the objectives.

As head of KADIN, he led private sector cooperation with the government and gave attention to the development of small and medium scale enterprises. Only 46 years old in 1994 when he was elected the young and energetic businessman Chairman of KADIN, young entrepreneurs who supported him knew he would accommodate the aspirations and ideas of the small businessman in Indonesia, which he did, having emerged from the small business world himself.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Aburizal heads the Bakrie Group of Companies, which comprise agro-industrial enterprises, construction, manufacturing real estate, banking, insurance, shipping, mining and trading among others. He started in 1972 as assistant to the Board of Directors of P.T. Bakrie Brothers which is engaged in iron and steel pipes manufacturing and later became Director in 1988 up to 1992. He was also President Director of P.T. Bakrie Nusantara Corporation from 1989 up to 1992 on a concurrent basis aside from his involvement in KADIN. Mr. Bakrie was active in many other organizations. He served as President of the ASEAN Institute (Institute of South East Asian Business).

He was Chairman of the Association of Indonesian Engineers; Deputy Chairman of the Association of Indonesia and Australia Business Cooperation; Chairman of Indonesian

Business Association of Young Entrepreneurs, of which he was one of the founding members; and Chairman of the Association of Steel Pipe Industry.

Mr. Bakrie's expertise was tapped by the government when he was appointed member of the People's Consultative Assembly of the Republic of Indonesia.

An avid sportsman, Mr. Bakrie was for a long-time chairman of the Indonesian Badminton Federation-Pelita Jaya (1982-1993), as well as chairman of the Indonesian Sport Association-Pelita Jaya (1986-1993).

Even as a student, Mr. Bakrie's leadership qualities were already evident: He served as Chairman of the Student Faculty of Electronics at the Institute of Technology, Bandung.

International recognition was also bestowed on Mr. Bakrie's talents in 1986 when the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Kobe, Japan selected him as one of the Outstanding Young People of the World.

Mr. Bakrie obtained his Masters Degree in Electronic Engineering from the Institute of Technology, Bandung in 1973.