



NEW CHIEF JUSTICE SWORN IN

Attorney-General Chan Sek Keong (left) was sworn in as the new Chief Justice by President S R Nathan at the Istana yesterday.

Mr Chan, appointed for an initial three-year term, took over from Chief Justice Yong Pung How (right), who witnessed the swearing-in. The CJ has retired after more than 15 years on the Bench.

Present at the ceremony in the Istana State Room were Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, Deputy Prime Minister S. Jayakumar as well as more than 30 invited guests.

Earlier in the Istana West Drawing Room, Mr Chan was sworn in as chairman of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights.

This was followed by the swearing-in of Mr Lee Sei Kin as a High Court judge.

Ipoh-born Mr Chan is no stranger to the Bench. He served as a Judicial Commissioner in 1986 and was appointed a High Court judge two years later.

He was appointed Attorney-General in 1992. In Parliament last week, Prof Jayakumar credited Mr Chan with transforming the A-G's Chambers from a "relatively small office to one with an efficient team of lawyers who can handle a whole range of complex legal issues".