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Programme

PREMIER YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME TO BE LAUNCHED SOON

SEREMBAN, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- The Premier Youth Leadership programme, geared to produce some 500,000 leaders within five years, will be launched soon, Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

He said the programme which drew the attention of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would involve three phases with the Training of Trainers (TOT) as the initial stage.

"For this initial stage, 1,000 to 1,500 leaders will be trained", he said at the function to meet youth leaders and representatives of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) at Dewan Theatrette, Wisma Negeri, here.

He said eventhough the target figure for this programme was 500,000 leaders but those who would form the back bone was only about 150,000.

The new programme, expected to require more than RM230 million, would become the ministry's core project with the aim of providing intensive training for youths in the society's priority fields.

"Hence application for allocation will be submitted to the Finance Ministry but initially funds from the Youth and Sports Ministry will be used," he said.

Muhyiddin said participants of the programme would be chosen from all states and districts and would not be confined to those staying in Kuala Lumpur.

"This will indirectly help in cutting cost by bringing the participants to the federal capital for training," he said.

He said existing facilities would be utilised for the programme apart from aid from the federal and state governments as well as the local authorities. -- BERNAMA