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Badminton

SET UP NUCLEUS BADMINTON COURTS, SAYS YBM PATRON

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Badminton Foundation (YBM) today called for cooperation of members of parliament in setting up of "nucleus badminton courts" nationwide.

This is part of the "1001 badminton courts" project mooted by the foundation in July 1994, to replace the earlier programme of constructing open courts which are exposed to draughts and wind.

YBM patron Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Hj Mohd Ali, during her meeting with several MPs as well as state badminton association officials, here, said the nucleus or indoor badminton courts should be set up in each of the parliamentary constituencies.

She said such courts would cost some RM60,000 each and hoped all the country's 162 MPs would help in constructing the facility.

Dr Siti Hasmah said such courts would help boost the interest of badminton enthusiasts especially those in the rural areas.

"This will allow the young generation to develop their talents as well as unearthing more potential badminton players", she said.

So far only one such facility had been constructed, in Kubang Pasu, Kedah, the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Siti Hasmah said the project would not only help improve the standard of badminton in the country but also forge better relation among the multi racial society.

The facility could also be used by MPs as activity coordination centre for their respective constituencies.

She also said these indoor badminton courts would be used for the Siti Hasmah Cup under 18 and 15 tournaments to be introduced next year.

Dr Siti Hasmah said the foundation with the cooperation of the Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) would provide badminton rackets, shuttles and nets for the nucleus courts with its handling by schools, district offices or village development and security committees -- Bernama