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Briged Wanita launch fixed for April 16

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Wanita Umno's Briged Wanita, formerly known as the Briged Putri, will be launched on April 16, the movement's chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said today.

She said the launch, originally scheduled for last Saturday to coincide with the launch of Umno Youth's Briged Putra, had to be postponed due to several reasons.

Siti Zaharah said these had to do with finalising the Briged Wanita guidelines, training, and uniforms, among others.

The new launching date will now coincide with the "Economic Achievements of Bumiputera Exposition" organised by Wanita Umno. The exposition will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Putra World Trade Centre.

Siti Zaharah was speaking to reporters after the live telecast of TV3's Malaysia Hari Ini's Cermin Diri at Dewan Muktamar, Pusat Islam today.

She along with Umno bureau head for Islamic affairs Datuk Abdul Hamid Othman and motivational consultant Datuk Dr Mohd Fadzilah Kamsah were the show's guests.

The show was later followed by a seminar on "A Happy Family Can Resolve Social Ills" organised by Umno's Social and Public Complaints Bureau. The seminar was attended by Umno Youth and Wanita division members from around the country.

Saying the brigade had generated alot of interest with more than 400 young women having registered to join Siti Zaharah added that there was support from all levels of the Wanita wing for it.

School-leavers, factory workers and housewives are encouraged to join the brigade, she said.

"Actually, the brigade had been in existence all along but was not a part of a formal programme at the division and State level.

"It is aimed at mobilising young women to be a part of Wanita Umno, to attract them into the party, to mould future leaders and to do charity work.

"It is more than just a uniformed body. It will be part of the machinery to implement political and social activities for Wanita Umno."

Siti Zaharah said adequate infrastructure was needed to carry out many of Wanita's programmes but it would be coordinated to give priority to national programmes and ensure their objectives were achieved.

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