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Clothing and cash for the needy

ALOR STAR, Thurs. - The Association of Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers today donated clothing and cash for distribution to orphans, the elderly and youths from poor families in the Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency.

Bakti also presented tinned pineapples and dates for mosques in the district.

The donations were presented to Kubang Pasu district officer Datuk Abu Bakar Yaacob by the association's president Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

The simple ceremony at the Prime Minister's Titi Gajah residence near here was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Siti Hasmah said that Bakti was continuing its tradition of donating items and cash for the needy in conjunction with the festive season.

"I understand that part of the RM1,000 we are donating will be distributed to patients at the Jitra hospital.

"We hope the remaining money will be distributed to the needy in the Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency," she added.

In Kuching, voluntary body Sabati, comprising wives of State Ministers and Assistant Ministers, today presented ang pows and food items to children Sarawak General Hospital's paediatric ward.

Sabati, led by its president Puan Sri Laila Taib, wife of the Chief Minister, also handed over medical equipment worth RM10,000 to the hospital. Laila was accompanied by her deputy Puan Sri Empiang Jabu.

The money and food given today totalled RM3,200. Among the medical items donated were a TOP Syringe Pump, a Medi-pump Portable Aspirator, a Ripple Mattress and a Pneumatic Pressure Cuff System.

A Sabati spokeswoman said the organisation donated some RM20,000 worth of gifts annually to the needy during festivals such as Chinese New Year, Hari Raya, Gawai Dayak and Christmas.

Sabati's major contribution though is its sponsorship of heart patients to undergo surgery.

Sabati has been sending heart patients to Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and the Normah Medical Specialists Centre in Kuching for corrective surgery since 1989.

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