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## Exposing the underprivileged to IT

AS the nation prepares to welcome the next millennium, the need to educate the younger generation, especially the less fortunate, on information technology becomes more urgent.

Realising this, KFC Holdings (M) Sdn Bhd recently held a special charity premiere of Star Wars Special Edition, the all-new version of the classic science-fiction flick that hit the big screen in 1977.

Proceeds from the charity event will be used to purchase personal computers for six homes.

The Star Wars charity premiere was attended by Selangor Cheshire Home president Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who is wife of Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

She accepted the mock cheque on behalf of the home from KFCH executive chairman Datuk Mohd Sarit Yusof.

Representatives of the other charitable organisations were also present to accept their cheques.

Mohd Sarit said the creation of the Multimedia Super Corridor by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad provided the impetus for every household in the country to become computer literate.

"Thus, we would like to reach out and help the less fortunate fulfil this dream by contributing personal computers.

"Through our contribution of around RM60,000 to selected homes, KFCH hopes to expose underprivileged children to the fascinating world of computers," said Mohd Sarit.

He also said that being less fortunate did not mean they should be deprived of the opportunity to be introduced to the wonders of computers.

"These children are an integral part of society and we should give them every opportunity to increase their knowledge so that they can do their part to create a borderless global village."

The six homes are Taman Pendidikan Anak-Anak Yatim Darul Kifayah, Rumah Amal Cahaya Tengku Ampuan Rahimah, Asrama Peyakin, Rumah Ozanam, Rumah Faith and Selangor Cheshire Home.

Some 250 children from these homes were privileged to be among the first in the country to enjoy Star Wars on the big screen.

They were later treated to a spread by KFC and presented with special Star Wars premiums.

Mohd Sarit hoped that the children would be able to master information technology and not become lost in the wave of information already sweeping the nation.

"Given the right opportunities and early exposure to computer education, these less fortunate children will be able to join in as Malaysia strives to become an information-rich society, making the creation of the Multimedia Super Corridor a reality."

About 250 residents from six charitable homes were at the premiere.

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