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MAHATHIR VISITS DESIGN CENTRE

KUALA LUMPUR, April 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today visited the Centre for Advanced Design (Cenfad), set up here in affiliation with New York's world-renowned Parsons School of Design.

Dr Mahathir spent more than one hour at the RM6-million centre which was established last year.

The centre has facilities like the state-of-the-art digital computer laboratory, a library, a tool shop and facilities for video conferencing and distance learning and teaching.

When briefing the prime minister, Cenfad's chairman of Liberal Studies Michael Barrett said the centre would try to educate Malaysians and Southeast Asians in dealing with their design needs.

He said the centre would provide students with the tools to turn them into internationally-recognised designers.

Barrett said Parsons had produced such well-known designers like Donna Karan and Zang Toi.

Cenfad current enrolment of 34 comprised students from Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

Those who complete a four-year course will receive a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Parsons while those pursuing a three-year course, a Diploma in Fine Arts. -- BERNAMA

MAM RN