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Retirement

MAHATHIR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT RETIRES

KUALA LUMPUR, April 30 (Bernama) -- A special assistant to Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who had served three previous Prime Ministers, retired from the Prime Minister's Department here today after more than 37 years service.

Puan Khamisah Sabdin, 57, clocked her way out for the last time, accompanied by Dr Mahathir and other office colleagues.

Narrating here experience to reporters, Khamisah said she became a special assistant to Dr Mahathir since he assumed duties as Prime Minister in 1981.

"Dr Mahathir is truly a caring Prime Minister, considerate and a good mixer with the staff," Khamsiah said of her boss.

Klang-born Khamsiah started her career as a typist in 1955 before being made a stenographer 10 years later.

She went on compulsory retirement in April 1995, but was later back in the job when her service was extended on a contract basis for two years.

Although today was her last day at the Prime Minister's Department, Khamsiah said she was still busy as usual with her work as she had to attend to letters from foreign government leaders.

Khamsiah, who has five children and two grandchildren said she spent her free time helping her husband, Yahaya Mohamad, attend to their farm in Langat.

"I feel sad leaving the department as I have work there for a long time, but I am happy in the sense that I can now devote more time for the family," she added.-- BERNAMA

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