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Bakti's 15,000 Kongs Raya packages for security forces

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - The Association of the Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti) today presented 15,000 packages of goodies for security forces who will be on duty during the Hari Raya and Chinese New Year celebrations.

Bakti president Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali said 12,000 packages would be distributed to the army on duty in the country and abroad. Another 3,000 would be sent to policemen.

The packages containing rendang, serunding, ketupat and satay gravy were prepared by about 60 Bakti members last Friday.

Dr Siti Hasmah said despite the current economic situation, Bakti would still continue to prepare the Hari Raya goodies for the police and military personnel.

"This is one way of showing our thanks and appreciation to the police and military personnel for their sacrifices to the country in maintaining peace," she said.

Dr Siti Hasmah, who is the wife of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, later presented the goodies to Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Rahim Noor and armed forces chief Jen Tan Sri Ismail Omar at Sri Perdana, the official residence of the Prime Minister.

Rahim said the police would not let up in efforts to maintain peace and security despite the current economic problems faced by the country.

"The police force will conduct more operations to check on the influx of illegal immigrants and monitor their activities in the country," he said.

Meanwhile, Bernama reports that two companies contributed Hari Raya goodies to the military personnel serving at Malaysian borders and overseas.

Standard Confectionary Bhd donated fruit cakes worth about RM50,000 while Semporna Sdn Bhd donated goodies worth about RM27,000.

"It is a small donation as a way of recognising and appreciating our soldiers who are not able to return home for the Raya holidays," SCB managing director Jackson Tan Han Koak said after handing over the goods to army chief Jen Datuk Mohd Zahidi Zainuddin at Wisma Pertahanan.

Armed forces personnel serving at the Malaysian-Thai border will receive their goodies on Jan 15 while Raya goodies for Malaysian soldiers serving under the United Nations in Bosnia-Herzegovina will be sent on Jan 20.

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