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Dr M to launch National Book Fund on Aug 5

JERANTUT, Sun. - The National Book Fund which will collect new and used books for distribution to village libraries nationwide will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Aug 5.

This fund, established with the co-operation of Petronas and Pos Malaysia, will see collection centres set up at petrol kiosks and post offices.

Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa said the effort would enable the Government to set up at least 1,000 rural libraries and reading centres.

"After the launching the public can contribute books whether used or new ones to the collection centres at all Petronas kiosks and post offices.

"We are taking this initiative as currently there are only 198 libraries and reading centres in villages. We hope to set up at least 1,000 centres," he said.

Annuar was speaking to reporters after launching the Umno Women Movement's Kampung Angkat Desa Wawasan at Kampung Teh and Batu Embun here.

He added that the Government would also be setting up reading centres in suraus, mosques, coffee shops, and other identified places.

Annuar added that the Community Development Department (Kemas) would also establish at least one computer learning centre in every State.

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