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Rare collectibles among auction items

THE Special National Fund which has received more than RM35 million in collections is expected to increase by an additional RM3.9 million when it conducts its first public auction next week.

Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Wong See Wah said the "rare collectibles" will include three items contributed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad worth RM124,000.

"The items include his own collection of foreign currency - 40 currency notes framed up, worth RM20,000 in reserve price and another 90 kept in albums which will be auctioned off at a reserve price of RM10,000," he told reporters in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

"Although the items have been targeted to be auctioned at the respective reserved prices, we expect the response to be encouraging."

Second Finance Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed will officiate the auction which will be held at Restoran Sri Melayu at Jalan Conlay in Kuala Lumpur from 3pm on April 22.

He said 37 items will be auctioned - 26 valuables and 11 pieces of landed property.

The 11 properties belonging to College Heights Garden Resort are mostly bungalow lots and are located in Seremban.

The Special National Fund, which was set up in March last year to help revive the country's economy, saw an overwhelming response as important personalities came forward with their treasured items.

The collections which have yet to be disbursed are being held in a trust account.

Several private collections of the Prime Minister's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali will also be auctioned off.

They include one set consisting of matching necklace baguette diamonds with ruby red gem stones, bracelet, earrings and ring (priced at RM120,000), a pair of 18K gold bangles (priced at RM1,000) and an 18K handcrafted armband (priced at RM3,000).

Also of interest are 18K baby rattle belonging to Puan Sri Yeoh Tiong Lay's family heirloom which will be auctioned off at RM2,000.

The auction will be conducted by Alen Noordin of the Malayan Racing Association and Dr Mohamad Kassim Ali from the Numismatic Society of Malaysia.

Those who wish to participate in the auction can contact Malaysia On Call at telephone number 03-7566666 for information.

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