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Cabinet panel to handle youth projects

PENANG, Sat. - As the many challenges in the new millennium require a new approach, a Cabinet committee set up recently will handle the country's youth affairs.

The committee, chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, would play an important role in national youth development programmes, said Youth and Sports Ministry director-general Datuk Raja Ruslan Raja Samah.

"As an initial step, the National Youth Consultative Council has been reactivated with its first meeting held on June 22."

He said the meeting approved several changes including upgrading its status.

Raja Ruslan was launching Datuk Azhar Mansor's Jalur Gemilang Challenge session in conjunction with the setting up of the Rakan Muda programme at Universiti Sains Malaysia.

He said the formation of Rakan Muda at institutions of higher learning was a new approach in its implementation.

"More than 20,000 students from 10 tertiary institutions have taken part in the Rakan Muda IPT programme since October 1997," he said.

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