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Chance for women to e-mail PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Women of Malaysia will be able to personally e-mail Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to state their needs, suggestions and frustrations via the Internet.

All one has to do is log on to the website www.mymalaysiaboleh.com. and send their mails - on anything and everything.

This project called "WarkahNet untuk PM" (a letter for the PM) is an effort by Yayasan Azam Wanita (Yaznita) and Women's Internet Council Malaysia (Masnita) in conjunction with Women's Day on Aug 25.

(Yaznita is a charity body that was set up to raise the status of women to be an equal partner in the development of the nation and country. Masnita was set up by Yaznita to reap the benefits of the Internet with regard to women.)

In launching the website today, Datin Paduka Zaleha Ismail, also the president of Masnita, said the project is to promote the positive use of the Internet.

"The theme for Women's Day this year is `Nur' (Light), which means that we women are the light that lights the nation. In line with this, we must strive to be so - be it as mothers, as teachers and as citizens," said Zaleha.

Masnita adviser Datuk Dr Mohd Radzi Abdul Latif guaranteed that "in the name of Internet freedom, there will be no censorship".

"We will, however, make sure that there is no repetition of messages and that all messages are politely worded, with respect to our well-mannered Malaysian culture.

"We are aware that it will reach only a small percentage of Malaysian women but we hope that this will be a start to create more IT awareness among women," said Zaleha.

Masnita will ensure that women's organisations nationwide will be contacted to make this project a success.

"For those who are not computer literate, they can approach women leaders in their areas and request them to send an e-mail on behalf of them.

"This is a non-political project and when we women voice women's issues, we should not be political.

"Let the Prime Minister read what women of Malaysia have to say," said Zaleha.

The last date to send e-mails is Aug 20.

(END)