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VIPs, too, showing the flag in display of patriotism

MINISTERS and State leaders have joined thousands of other Malaysians to fly the Jalur Gemilang on their cars in the run-up to the National Day.

They have responded to the call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir to Malaysians to demonstrate their patriotism.

"There's no reason why Malaysians shouldn't fly the national flag," Abdul Kadir had said when he launched the fourth Travel and Trade night at Emporium the Grand Cafe on Tuesday.

Bus, taxi and lorry drivers were encouraged to do likewise.

And so, to set an example, Dr Mahathir and Abdul Kadir have both fixed the Jalur Gemilang onto their official cars. Likewise, Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Hishamuddin Hussein.

Both Ministers were photographed yesterday at separate functions proudly showing off the national flag atop their vehicles.

Meanwhile, in Pulau Indah, off Port Klang, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said all MCA Cabinet Ministers and State Assemblymen were told to fly the Jalur Gemilang atop their vehicles.

Dr Ling said he would also ask all party leaders and members to fly the flag as they should be proud to be Malaysians.

In Johor Baru, State Unity and Social Welfare Committee chairman Datuk K. S. Balakrishnan was captured on film while adjusting the miniature Jalur Gemilang on his official car.

"It's a matter of pride," he said. "It reminds me of how privileged I am to be Malaysian."

In Penang, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said he would direct both the public and private sectors to fly the national flag.

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