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Wanita MCA wants a Women Ministry

PETALING JAYA, Sun. - Wanita MCA will submit a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the need to establish a Ministry on Women Affairs, Children and Family Development.

Its chief Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen said today there was a need for such a ministry.

She said this was because women's issues were getting more complex.

"We need to pay more importance to such matters and it will also be discussed at the movement's Exco meeting in October."

Ng, who is also Deputy Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister, said she had raised the matter in the Dewan Negara on several occasions when she was a Senator in 1994 but nothing much was done.

Currently, matters on women's affairs are handled by the Women Affairs Department (Hawa) under the purview of Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil.

Matters pertaining to children are handled by the National Unity and Social Development Ministry.

This ministry comes under Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman.

"No doubt National Unity and Social Development Ministry and Hawa are doing a good job.

"However, we need one single ministry to monitor these issues as women, children and family are all inter-related," she told reporters after attending a seminar here.

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