

RM13m facelift for Pekan Rabu

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ALOR STAR, Wed — The town's oldest bazaar, Pekan Rabu, will be given a RM13 million facelift and a new name — Pekan Rabu Che Det Mall — in honour of its most famous “trader”, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The complex, which houses a collection of shops owned by Malay traders, will be transformed into a retail and cultural centre in six months.

In line with the physical changes, its name is also being changed to include the name Che Det, Dr Mahathir's pet name in Kedah.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain said the complex would see the addition of a paved walkway and a pedestrian mall to be called Che Det Walk.

“It will feature trendy cafes, souvenir shops and a huge electronic advertising billboard.

“Another addition will be a square, which is to be constructed over a section of Sungai Raja that flows along Pekan Rabu,” he added.

“When completed, the square will function as a centre for cultural performances and exhibitions from every state,” Syed Razak said after a ground breaking ceremony at the complex today.