

Bakti raises

STAR 29 JUL 2001
over

RM2.9mil for charity

■ By MOSES LOO

KUALA LUMPUR: The ~~Wives~~ Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers Charity and Welfare Organisation (Bakti) raised almost RM3mil during its charity dinner on Friday night.

Stealing the spotlight from their husbands, they sang their way to a RM2.95mil collection during the Bakti Charity Night 2001 dinner.

Among the star performers were Datin Seri Endon Mahmood, Datin Seri Ena Ling, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Datin Amar Elizabeth Moggie, Datin Honey Chua and Datin Fong Lay Hwa while Bakti president Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali impressed the crowd with her rendition of *Gubahanku*.

Just when everyone thought the show was almost over, the boys of vocal group KRU, who had earlier performed on the stage, went over to the VIP table and invited Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to come forward and lend his voice to the classic P. Ramlee tune

Tunggu Sekejap.

Later, Dr Siti Hasmah remained on stage after her performance, Dr Mahathir, who is also Bakti's patron, serenaded her from below ala P. Ramlee style.

The night ended with representatives of 45 companies and organisations handing over their cheques with the biggest contributions coming from Sports Toto Malaysia Sdn Bhd and YTL Power Generation Sdn Bhd, which donated RM200,000 each.

In her speech earlier, Dr Siti Hasmah said the money raised during

the night would go into building fund for the Bakti Community Centre in Bukit Kiara.

"After 25 years of existence, Bakti will finally have a place to call its home," she said.

She also thanked the generous donors who, without fail, had provided contributions to Bakti even during the hard times from 1997 to 1999.

"The charity kept coming in despite those bad times and thanks to them, we were able to continue helping children and those in need," she said.