

23 JUL 2001

Mahathir-Violence

DR M LAUNCHES WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN

KUALA LUMPUR, July 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the Women Against Violence campaign aimed at boosting public awareness, particularly women on violent incidents happening in society.

It is the first national-level campaign to be launched by the Women and Family Development Ministry since it was set up on Jan 17.

More than 500 representatives from various organisations attended the launch at the KL Sentral Station lobby in Brickfields.

Also present were Dr Mahathir's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, the wife of deputy prime minister Datin Seri Endon Mahmood and Women and Family Development Minister Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil.

The campaign reflected Malaysian women's strong opposition to all forms of violence inflicted on women in the country.

The campaign is to educate the victims on the actions they can take and guide caring citizens offering their services to curb such violence.

It will be carried out by placing advertisements in the print and electronic media, putting up posters and distributing informative leaflets.

Campaigners will go down to the grassroots to instil awareness among women on the roles they can play as a mother, wife and daughter.

Police statistics showed 2,413 domestic violence involving wives and 1,217 rape cases were reported last year.

-- BERNAMA

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