

12 DEC 2001

Ling-Utar

DR MAHATHIR TO LAUNCH FIRST UTAR STUDENTS' INTAKE

PUTRAJAYA, Dec 12 (Bernama) -- The first students' intake of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) sponsored by the MCA will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Ling Sik said today.

Dr Ling said that Dr Mahathir stated his agreement to attend the function scheduled to be held in May or June.

"The first students' intake is symbolic which is most encouraging following a long wait," he told a media conference at his office here.

However, he said that the number of students pursuing courses at UTAR for the first session had not been determined.

He said that the documentation on the courses to be offered at the university had been submitted to the National Accreditation Board for purposes of recognition.

The former premises of Star Publications in Section 13, Petaling Jaya, will be used as UTAR's temporary campus. The building is being renovated to provide 20 lecture halls, administration office and other facilities for students and staff.

Earlier, Dr Ling presented a cheque for RM20,000 representing the MCA's contribution for the Afghan Refugees Fund organised by The Star.

The cheque was accepted by Group Chief Editor Datuk Ng Poh Tip.

So far, a total of RM550,000 has been collected since the fund was launched on Oct 14.

-- BERNAMA

RZS AZZ RM