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Youth

EMPLOYERS CAN HELP PROMOTE YOUTH ACTIVITIES, SAYS AWARD WINNER

ALOR SETAR, May 16 (Bernama) -- National Woman Youth Personality award winner Datuk Rokiah Zainudin has suggested that participation in youth activities be made a criterion for recruiting workers in the public and private sectors.

She said this would encourage more people to join youth organisations.

"In the 1970s, this matter was considered during job interviews because involvement in youth associations shows that a person knows how to mix in a group and possesses leadership qualities," she told Bernama today.

However, since the 1980s such participation was no longer an advantage for getting jobs and this caused many people to shy away from youth organisations, she said.

Rokiah, 59, who has been active in youth organisations for more than 40 years, received the award from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the National Youth Day gathering in Ipoh last night.

Rokiah, a former headmistress of Sekolah Rendah St Nicholas Convent here, first participated in youth activities when she joined the Girl Guide movement in secondary school.

"I always feel young when I get involved in the youth movement because it allows me to mix with young people," she said.

Rokiah said she liked to share her experiences with youths to help them face the challenges of life.

She said marriage did not affect her interest in youth activities because her husband Mohamed Noor Udoh, a former headmaster, was also active in the scout movement, having once served as Kedah Scouts secretary.

Rokiah was the Kedah Girl Guides secretary from 1975 to 1977 and has been vice-chairman of the Kedah Branch Malaysian Association of Youth Clubs (MAYC) since 1984.

She is also active in women's organisations and is the Kuala Kedah Wanita Umno chief.

-- BERNAMA

JM YBY