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## Human Resources Ministry's ICT gathering gets good response

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Age is no handicap to acquiring knowledge especially in this age of information technology.

This is especially true for assistant nurse Nabjeah Abdul Aziz.

Nabjeah, 53, from the Assistant Nurses Union in Seremban was one of the participants in the Information and Communications Technology Literacy Gathering held at the Putra Indoor Stadium in Bukit Jalil yesterday.

She expressed her gratitude at being able to participate in the event. "It has been my dream to learn computer skills. I am lucky to be able to do so, especially since I will be retiring soon."

Nabjeah, who had no prior computer knowledge said the programme was easy to understand and she was able to grasp the basics easily.

"It is good for senior citizens to take the initiative to learn basic computer skills, especially internet use. There is so much knowledge and information out there with just a click of the mouse."

Another participant was Fatimah Masree, 52, from Kuantan, Pahang. She is from the Assistant Nurses Union of Pahang. Fatimah, who also has no prior computer knowledge, confessed to being "afraid of the computer."

"It took some getting used to, but now I feel more comfortable and less afraid of the computer. It is quite interesting," said Fatimah.

The gathering was organised by the Human Resources Ministry and involved some 1,000 participants from various sectors.

They took part in a mass simultaneous computer tutorial based on a syllabus prepared by the National Vocational Training Council.

They were taught basic word processing, spreadsheet usage, how to surf the World Wide Web and build a homepage, and also use electronic mail.

The objective of the gathering was to increase ICT awareness amongst Malaysians in line with the ministry's efforts to increase productivity by encouraging the usage of IT in all work processes.

The gathering was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who spoke on the need to embrace ICT knowledge in all levels of society.

The Human Resources Ministry is planning a similar gathering next month in Malacca.

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