

23 AUG 2001

Mahathir-Foundation

MAHATHIR LAUNCHES CHERAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Ogos (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the Cheras Education Foundation (YPC) established by the Cheras Umno division here.

He hailed the setting up of the foundation as a noble effort towards stepping up the performance of school students, especially those who come from poor families.

Dr Mahathir hoped that YPC, which has funds totalling RM1 million and is helping 19 "adopted" schools, would render assistance to more schools.

"I also hope that more donors will come forward to contribute to the foundation as this a noble effort and one that is in line with Islamic teachings," he said at the launching ceremony at the Kuala Lumpur Badminton Stadium.

Urging Malaysian students must make good use of the education opportunities made available to them, he said they were more fortunate than students in some other countries.

"In Uganda, for instance, it is difficult for girls to obtain education due to poverty. Parents will marry off girls to escape the burden of taking care of the girls. So girls seldom get to continue their education," said the Prime Minister, who returned home yesterday from a visit to Uganda.

The 19 schools adopted by YPC comprise six secondary schools, 11 primary schools and two kindergartens.

-- BERNAMA

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