

10/11/2001

PM, wife contribute blankets, clothing

PEKAN, Fri. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir and wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali today handed over their personal contributions of blankets and clothing to help ease the sufferings of Afghanistan refugees in Pakistan.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said an army truck was despatched to collect four boxes containing the items from the Prime Minister's residence to be brought to the Southport in Klang and loaded onboard naval vessel KD Mahawangsa.

KD Mahawangsa left the Southport at noon today, ferrying 460 tonnes of foodstuff, clothing and medicine, for Afghan refugees.

Najib said Dr Siti Hasmah had called him in the morning informing of the special gifts from the Prime Minister and herself.

Najib said this after the handing over cash aid of between RM600 to RM1,500 to some 120 poor rubber and palm oil smallholders at the Paloh Hinai community hall here this morning.

The donations for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan were collected through the efforts of Wisma Putra (250 tonnes), Umno (50 tonnes), Pas (one tonne), Mercy (120 tonnes and three 4X4 vehicles), CNI (10 tonnes), Kelantanese Association (20 tonnes) and Abim (10 tonnes).

In Kota Baru, Pusat Perkembangan Kanak-Kanak Kota Baru chairman Tengku Ahmad Badruddin Tengku Ahmad Shihabuddin presented a cheque for RM1,500 to Berita Harian bureau chief Mohd Nasir Hassan for the newspaper's "Kempen Keamanan Anti-Perang" fund.

(END)