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Youth's new millennium patriotism programme gathers momentum

JITRA, Fri. - The New Millennium Patriotism gathering is gaining momentum with the organiser, the Malaysian Youth Council, planning to produce an album of patriotic songs and holding weekly gatherings at district level.

The council, which organised the first gathering in Shah Alam last Sunday, will produce an album of new and existing patriotic songs to be distributed free to youths nationwide.

Working with a private record company, EMP Records, the MYC hopes to distribute 100,000 copies of compact discs and cassettes of the album in after its launch in August.

MYC president Saifuddin Abdullah said MYC planned to invite a group of youth role- models, including Datuk Azhar Mansor and Siti Nurhaliza, to sing one of the two new songs being composed for this album.

The other new song being written is a cheering song.

The album which will be ready by May will be launched in August by Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Kadir Sheikh Fadzir in conjunction with "Bulan Kemerdekaan" celebrations.

Saifuddin said this after launching the Kubang Pasu district level New Millennium Patriotism gathering at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Seri Mahawangsa today.

The gathering, organised by the Kubang Pasu youth council, saw the attendance of 300 students from schools and youth groups in the district who also participated in a football tournament held in conjunction with the gathering.

It is the first such gathering to be held at the district level following the gathering in Shah Alam's Stadium Malawati on Feb 18.

MYC will soon plan a schedule for all district-level councils to organise such gatherings in their areas, with at least one gathering held each week in one district in the country.

Saifuddin added MYC would distribute Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's message at the Shah Alam gathering to youths in CDs, cassettes and leaflets.

He said the items would be distributed through the various youth and non-governmental organisations.

Meanwhile in Kuala Lumpur, Saifuddin said on March 3, the Kuala Pilah Youth council would be organising their new millennium patriotism programme.

He added that every week at least one new millennium patriotism programme is scheduled to be held at either district or state level which would be co-ordinated by the National Youth Council.

"We want this to be an on-going programme throughout this year and beyond so that our objectives will be realised and youths will translate patriotism in the form of concrete contributions towards the development, progress and well-being of the country and people."

Saifuddin said they were also planning to hold patriotic concerts in every State.

On March 3, he added, 77 Non-Governmental Organisations, who are co-organisers of the New Millennium Patriotic programmes, would meet at MYC office to chart new programmes.

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