

MP for Putrajaya in 2004

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More reps to be elected as population in new federal territory grows, says Dr M

PUTRAJAYA, Fri: Putrajaya will have its own Member of Parliament (MP) by the next general election probably in 2004, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said there will initially be only one MP and the number will be increased as the population grows.

"When the population gets bigger we will have to increase the

number of MPs in Putrajaya," he told reporters after launching the first anniversary of Putrajaya as a Federal Territory at Dataran Putra here today.

Asked whether Putrajaya will have a mayor, Mahathir said it will have one when the population increases.

"We have a projection of 350,000 population in Putrajaya."

Mahathir also said that Putra-

jaya is developing well and hopes that its conference centre will be ready before the upcoming Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting.

He said a 4km boulevard will also be built from the Putrajaya mosque to the conference centre. The present boulevards will also be expanded.

He also added that designs for all future buildings in the vicini-

ty have been completed.

"I hope that Putrajaya will be a comfortable place for its residents. I like to see the development works in Putrajaya and I think that this is one of the biggest engineering feats by Malaysians," he added.

Earlier in his speech, Mahathir said the success of Putrajaya shows that the country has a strong financial standing.

He said Putrajaya will become busier this year especially when all government departments are functioning fully.

"We hope that with the increase in population, Putrajaya will become a livelier city. We are confident with the ability shown by all contractors, developers and administrators appointed to further develop Putrajaya," he added.