

# Extended service for medical team in Pakistan

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — The service of the Armed Forces' Medical Team (Malmedtim) at the refugee camps in Chaman, Pakistan will be extended between three and six months, Armed Forces Chief Jen Tan Sri Mohd Zahidi Zainuddin said today.

He said the extension was in view of the excellent services provided by the team in helping the Afghanistan refugees there.

He said the first team sent to Chaman, comprising 50 members from the Armed Forces Royal Medical and Dental Corps, was expected to return next week.

"They will be replaced by a new group which is expected to serve between three and six months," he said.

Mohd Zahidi told reporters this after the launching of the Maksak Putrajaya 2002 Perdana Run logo by the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Shamsuddin Osman at the Government Employees Welfare and Sports Council (Maksak) Complex here.

The first Malmedtim arrived in Pakistan on Jan 4 and opened a hospital at the Roghani camp in Chaman.

Apart from the Malmedtim, Umno Youth had also sent four relief missions made up of 10 doctors, 14 paramedics, 30 medical volunteers and RM400,000 worth of medicine to the refugee camps there immediately after the bombing on Afghanistan in November last year.

Mohd Zahidi said the Malmedtim had carried out an excellent job despite the cold weather in Chaman. He said their services were very much appreciated by the refugees to the extent that some of the babies born at the camps were named after the Malaysian doctors and medical assistants who helped in the delivery process.

On the Maksak Run which is organised by Maksak with Armed Forces Sport Council, Perbadanan Putrajaya and the Federal Territory Amateur Athletics Association as the co-organisers, Shamsuddin said the inaugural event would be made a yearly activity.

The Run, which will be flagged off by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on April 7 at Dataran Putrajaya, will be participated by 5,000 people.