

Kedah to host Raya open house this time

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ALOR STAR: Kedah will host the national Hari Raya open house here on Dec 21, said Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Paduka Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir.

He said the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid, Sultan of Kedah Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah and Sultanah Tuanku Bahiyah Tuanku Abdul Rahman, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi would attend the open house.

Kadir said he would also invite Thai Prime Minister

Thaksin Shinawatra and the governors of five southern Thai districts to the function.

"Based on the good response from Singaporeans to the previous Hari Raya open house in Johor, we hope to gather about 200,000 people (this year)," he told reporters after inspecting renovation works for the Kedah Tourism Action Council office in Jalan Raja yesterday.

He said the building, formerly a courthouse, would also be the base for the state Tourism Information Office and the Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry's enforcement unit.

The renovation works is expected to be completed by March.