

30 OCT 2002
Siti Hasmah-Digital
DIGITAL CD ON BM GRAMMAR LAUNCHED

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- The Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) in collaboration with the Multimedia University of Malaysia (MMU) today launched a digital compact disc (CD) on Bahasa Malaysia grammar to facilitate easy learning of the national language.

MMU Chancellor Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali said the use of the CD would help teachers in the teaching of the language in classrooms using multimedia apparatus.

"In this way, not only the knowledge in Bahasa Malaysia can be spread but also skills on using multimedia equipment can be enhanced. I hope individuals, schools and tertiary learning institutions can use them," she said when launching the CD.

Dr Siti Hasmah, who is also the wife of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said the collaboration between DBP and MMU would boost the use of technology and multimedia software among students in acquiring the knowledge in Bahasa Malaysia, Malay Literature and culture.

"The CD can also narrow the digital divide between students in urban and rural areas and enable them to easily understand the grammar of the language," she said.

The user-friendly CD has 17 grammar modules on information and interactive developed by an eight-member panel comprising language and pedagogy experts.

DBP Director-General Datuk A. Aziz Deraman said the CD contained brief information, not too theoretical and more activity oriented.

"I believe the first product published in Malaysia with its contents, presentation and style suiting the teaching criteria which require reading and reference to Bahasa Malaysia in the electronic and multimedia forms," he said.

In developing the software, Aziz said, DBP was involved in preparing the materials till the story board while MMU was the consultant and manager of the multimedia development besides providing the apparatus and technology know-how.

For a start, MMU and DBP have set a target of more than 2,000 users to use the product costing RM250 and to market it in Russia, Europe and China.

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