

21 JAN 2002

Mahathir-Centre

DR MAHATHIR LAUNCHES PUTERI UMNO'S FIRST COMMUNITY CENTRE

PETALING JAYA, Jan 21 (Bernama) - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched Puteri Umno's first community centre at the Taman Sri Manja flats in Jalan Klang Lama, here, today.

The centre will serve as a tuition centre and a social service centre.

It is Puteri Umno's commitment to education to realise the objective to produce an outstanding society irrespective of race or religion.

At the function, Dr Mahathir witnessed the handing over of a mock key to the centre by Puteri Umno pro tem chief Azalina Othman Said and Selangor Puteri Umno pro tem head Nora Azmin Raduan to Taman Medan state assemblywoman Datin Paduka Norkhaila Jamaludin.

The Umno president also witnessed the handing over of books and computers donated by sponsors.

The centre uses a double-storey container to conduct its activities.

In her speech, Azalina said Puteri Umno hoped that such centres could be set up in all state and parliamentary constituencies in the country to foster relations between the people of various races and Puteri Umno and their elected representatives.

"Puteri Umno Malaysia, Umno's youngest wing, realises that we have to be creative in running community programmes," she said.

She said Taman Sri Manja was chosen because it was densely populated and there was constant interaction among the residents.

For a start, English and Jawi script will be taught at the centre and the tuition will be extended to mathematics and computer classes in future.

Present were the prime minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, and Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Khir Toyo.

-- BERNAMA

RV SHS AHH JK