

01 AUG 2002

Zaharah-Flags

RM1 MILLION JALUR GEMILANG CAMPAIGN ONLY FOR THIS YEAR

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- The National Unity and Social Development Ministry received an allocation of RM1 million to undertake Fly the Jalur Gemilang campaign, in conjunction with national day celebration this year.

Its minister, Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said the allocation was spent on the purchase and distribution of the Jalur Gemilang for the campaign at the district, state and national levels.

"The campaign is carried out because the Jalur Gemilang is seen as basic in demonstrating love for the country," she told the media after the launch of the Jalur Gemilang campaign at the ministry level at Sungai Besi toll plaza here today.

Zaharah also gave away gift bags with Jalur Gemilang to lucky motorists passing through the toll plaza.

Deputy Minister Dr Tiki Anak Lafe, who heads Fly the Jalur Gemilang campaign, was confident that by next year the community would be well aware and continue to fly the national flag without coercion.

"We want this annual event to be carried on voluntarily by the community and not because they were forced to do so by such campaigns," he said.

The campaign finale will be held on Aug 17, when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launches the national-level Merdeka month and Fly the Jalur Gemilang campaign at Dataran Merdeka.

Meanwhile, Zaharah said the ministry would set up Unity Clubs in schools and higher learning institutions.

"The Unity Club will generate deeper understanding of unity, symbols of unity, meaning and importance of unity based on the identity of the Malaysian community," she said.

She said the programme would be developed jointly with the Education Ministry to strengthen racial integration.

Zaharah said both ministries had given their inputs on modules, tasks, training and club activities which would take into consideration the participation of all races.

-- BERNAMA

SNS ZS VRN/AO