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Zaharah-Allocation

RM10.5 MILLION TO BEEF UP RUKUN TETANGGA

MORIB, March 24 (Bernama) -- The National Unity and Social Development Ministry has received an additional allocation of RM10.5 million to beef up the Rukun Tetangga (RT) units throughout the country, said its minister Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman today.

She said the allocation would be able to support the RT secretariat in carrying out its activities and expanding its network in every district in all the states.

So far, the ministry had set up 2,059 RT units throughout the country and expected another 566 new RT units to be formed by the end of the year, she told reporters after opening the Selangor state-level Youths Unity Sports Carnival, here.

She said it was the intention of the government and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that non-governmental organisations (NGOs) especially those under the government's leadership such as the RT were given full support including financing.

The role of the RT as second liners in the government's efforts to eliminate negative elements which could threaten solidarity was growing, she said.

Dr Siti Zaharah said the allocation was the biggest from the Finance Ministry specifically for the RT.

On the sports carnival, she said it should be emulated by other states because it placed emphasis on the involvement of youths in various activities.

"Sports and youths cannot be separated. Sports is a productive activity which could motivate the community to interact and provide room to the Jiran Muda to occupy their free time during the holidays," she said.

About 500 youths from all the nine districts in Selangor gathered at the Morib beach to participate in the carnival.

-- BERMAN

RIZ NAK AO