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Women and Family Development Ministry gets big allocation

WOMEN AND FAMILY

THE Women and Family Development Ministry is allocated RM99.1 million for next year, a 68 per cent jump over this year's figure.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, tabling the 2003 Budget in Parliament today, said the bigger allocation was in line with the government's recognition of the role of women in national economic and social development.

The Prime Minister also proposed that the paternity leave for male civil servants be increased from three to seven days.

"In addition, to enable civil servants to take care of family matters during the demise of their immediate family, they will be given three days of unrecorded leave," he said.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the Finance Minister, said that under the family development programme of the National Population and Family Development Board, 10 "Kasih Keluarga" complexes would be built.