

25 MAR 2003

Zaharah-Campaign

CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN TO PROTEST AGAINST WAR

KUCHING, March 25 (Bernama) -- The National Unity and Community Development Ministry will organise a campaign for children in this country to protest against the war on children in Iraq.

Its minister Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said the campaign followed the unanimous condemnation, as proposed by Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday, of the military action by the United States in Iraq.

"We are still discussing the concept. It's an effort to unite the voices of children to say "No" to war and a sign of sympathy for Iraqi children who are victims of war," she told reporters here today.

The campaign involved non-governmental organisations and children's groups.

Earlier, Dr Siti Zaharah visited Pakan in Sarikei to give financial aid to 41 fire victims who lost their homes in the Rumah Panjang Dana blaze last month.

"Children are encouraged to participate in the campaign so that their voices are heard by the international community, especially by the United States and its allies who attack Iraq," she said.

Children throughout the world were watching on television, and reading in the newspapers, of the violence against other children in Iraq, she added.

Dr Siti Zaharah said she was thankful that children in Malaysia were able to live in peace and harmony despite their diverse racial and religious background.

--BERNAMA

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