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GOVT DONATES RM10.8 MILLION FOR AUDITORIUM AT ISLAMIC CENTRE

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 10 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Government has donated RM10.8 million towards the construction of the RM21.5 million Auditorium Malaysia at the Oxford University Islamic Centre, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Shafie Mohd Salleh said today.

He said the rest of the amount would be donated by the Yayasan Al-Bukhary.

The Auditorium would be part of the RM275 million Islamic Centre complex at the university, he said when winding up the debate on the RM10.8 million being sought by the Finance Ministry for the auditorium under the Supplementary Supply Bill 2003.

He said the money had already been sent to the Malaysian High Commissioner in London.

Shafie said the Auditorium Malaysia at the Islamic Centre reflected the full commitment of the Malaysian Government and people to excellence in education.

He said the Auditorium would be used to deliver talks on issues affecting the Islamic world to the Islamic community and the West.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's recent speech on the "The Misunderstood Religion" at the university's Islamic Centre had opened the minds of many people to the teachings of Islam.

The move to build the Islamic Centre and Auditorium Malaysia symbolised Malaysia as an Islamic state which practised moderation in the struggle for Islam's progress, he said.

-- BERNAMA

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