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Zaharah-Unity

MAY IS "UNITY MONTH" FROM NOW ON

KUALA TERENGGANU, May 4 (Bernama) -- The government has declared May, "Unity Month" every year, replacing Unity Day which was previously celebrated on Sept 16, National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said.

She said the announcement capped the ministry's programme towards promoting unity among the various races in the country.

"Unity Month starts this year, in this month, and we have prepared 597 activities. The peak will be the Mega Unity celebrations from May 28 to 31 at Dataran Konvo of Universiti Putra Malaysia which will be attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," she said.

One of the programmes for Mega Unity, which will be attended by about 100,000 people, is the Children of Malaysia Camp for 1,200 Rukun Tetangga Young Neighbours, she said last night. Earlier she launched the "Semarak Padu Bersama Media" programme organised by the Terengganu National Unity Department.

The theme for the inaugural Unity Month is "Racial Interaction Strengthens Unity".

Meanwhile, Zaharah said her ministry would continue to mobilise its machinery to handle the various social ills in society, especially among youths.

She said a special team has been formed with the responsibility of handling any problem that emerged in society.

"We are also playing our part by creating public awareness on the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) problem," she said.

--BERNAMA

AYB SN EMK