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There are no short cuts to success, Azalina tells youths

BANGI, Thurs. - Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Azalina Othman Said today hit out at youths who were only interested in becoming popular and rich overnight without being prepared to work hard to achieve their ambitions.

Azalina said some of these youths were not keen in helping to achieve the national development agenda because they viewed it as a lengthy process.

"They want things the easy way and are not willing to start from the bottom," she said.

She was speaking at the opening of a seminar on the thoughts of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) training institute near here.

The seminar was organised by Universiti Utara Malaysia's Institute of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's Thoughts. Also present at the function was the university's vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Ahmad Fawzi Mohd Basri.

About 400 youths comprising college students and members of the 4B Youth Movement are attending the seminar.

Azalina, who is also Puteri Umno head, said of the 9.8 million youths in the country, only two million were registered as members of youth organisations.

"About seven million youths are not interested in joining youth organisations as they view it of no importance to them and feel that it will take them a long time before they can hold important posts in the organisation.

"Instead, they are more keen to be involved in glamorous professions like becoming hosts of television programmes, actors, actresses or participating in singing competitions which will bring them instant fame.

"These youths must change their mind-set and realise there is no fast and easy way to achieve success.

"One has to work hard, be determined and dedicated if one wants to succeed. Citing an example, Azalina said Dr Mahathir was a very dedicated, committed and disciplined leader who was always willing to work hard to succeed.

"The youths should follow the examples set by Dr Mahathir and should observe how disciplined he was. "Whether one succeeds or fails in life depends on oneself and one's commitment in achieving one's aspirations.

"They should also stop the habit of blaming others if they do not get what they want. One should create opportunities for oneself instead of just waiting for it to come one's way."

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