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Merdeka parade in Putrajaya

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - The national-level Merdeka Day parade this year will be held at Dataran Putra in Putrajaya, Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said today.

"This is to honour the contributions of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who has developed Putrajaya as the administrative centre of the Government," Abdul Kadir said at a dinner hosted by the Malay Journalists Association of Malaysia.

The dinner was to celebrate the success of the "Explore Malaysia 2002" programme organised by the association in conjunction with the Merdeka Month celebrations last year.

A total of 456 participants took part in the programme, which culminated in the handing over of Jalur Gemilang to the Prime Minister on the eve of National Day.

Kadir said his ministry would work with the organiser and association to make the programme more attractive and successful.