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`It is an honour for Perlis women'

KANGAR, Tues. - The appointment of Arau MP and State Wanita Umno chief Datuk Mastika Junaidah Husin as Women and Family Development Ministry Parliamentary Secretary was described as a "timely move to further boost the morale of Perlis women".

State Wanita Umno deputy chief Azihani Ali said the appointment also underlined the recognition and honour granted to the women's wing in the State.

"It is reflective of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's and that of the national leadership's trust in Datuk Mastika's integrity and unblemished record of almost 20 years in the movement," Azihani told the NST when contacted today.

She said Mastika had been actively involved in various capacities in several women's organisations and community services.

Azihani, who is also Sena State Assemblywoman, said Mastika was one of the pioneers of the Federation of Women's Organisations in the State in the 1980s.

Mastika, 49, serving her second term as Arau MP, was State Wanita Umno deputy chief from 1984 to 1997.

Born in Kuala Kurau, Perak, she holds a diploma in agriculture from Universiti Putra Malaysia and had served as Mada senior assistant agriculture officer and Pertubuhan Peladang Mada general manager.

She is married to Ramli Ahmad and they have two children, Riza Fahmi, 25, and Julie Azlina, 24.

She is also the chairman of Malaysia Handicraft Corporation, Konsortium Indah Perlis, Tenaga Cable Industries, Batu Bara Sdn Bhd, Bernas Perdana and Jasmine Food Corporation.