

Merdeka bash: Gov't opts for 1M'sia logo instead

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The logo for this year's Merdeka Day celebration will, for the third year in a row, be the 1Malaysia logo, the Information, Communications and Culture Ministry says.

Secretary-general Kamaruddin Siaraf said the different logos, six of which have appeared in some newspapers and television stations, were merely for publicity for the event.

"The different logos are only for promotional purposes. However, the phrase 'Merdeka 55 Tahun Janji Ditepati' (Merdeka 55 Years Promises Fulfilled) must be there for all logos," Kamaruddin told a press conference yesterday.

Explaining the meaning behind the slogan, Kamaruddin said Malaysia gained independence 55 years ago and the federal government had fulfilled its promises to Malaysians over that period.

He was speaking to reporters after chairing the final meeting on the preparations for the Merdeka Day celebrations this Friday.

World record attempt for tweet-up

Meanwhile, Department of Special Affairs (Jasa) director-general Fuad Hassan said his department was planning a record-breaking Merdeka tweet-up involving 10,000 students.

Fuad said the students involved would be brought to Dataran Merdeka where they would be dressed in a special uniform and cap. Transportation will be provided.

The students will then engage in a marathon tweeting session which must include the hashtag #Merdeka55.

"The students will have their own group and place during the celebration and they have been assigned to tweet at the same time for an hour - from 8.45pm to 9.45pm," he explained.

The ministry is trying to break the world record by getting more than 10,000 people gathered at one place for the purpose of tweeting at the same time within one hour.

According to Fuad, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak will personally choose three questions from the tweet-up to reply on the same night.

Fuad has also urged other Malaysians to join in the event to enable the Merdeka hashtag to rank among the top 10 in the country.

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