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WOMEN

DPM: Govt formulating gender equality law

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KUALA LUMPUR: The government is committed to ensuring that women enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

She said in realising this commitment, the government was working towards formulating a gender equality bill as an investment for the country at several levels.

"The commitment towards increasing women's leadership representation in the government is evidenced by the number of senior cabinet ministerial appointments.

"Currently, we have five women ministers (17.86 per cent) out of 28 ministers and four women deputy ministers (14.81 per cent) out of 27 deputy ministers," she said in her speech when officiating The Big Tulip Summit — Women in Business, Industry and Government Programme, held

here for two days beginning yesterday.

The programme, themed "The Power of Purpose, Positivity and Resilience", is organised by the Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business, Universiti Utara Malaysia.

Dr Wan Azizah said in Malaysia there were 32 women (14.41 per cent) in the 222-seat Dewan Rakyat and 13 women (19.4 per cent) in the 67-seat Senate.

The increase in percentage of women in politics would ensure more women's voices could be heard at the highest level of decision-making in the country, she added.

She said the National Policy on Women and its Action Plan was also a reflection of the government's commitment to ensure the participation of women in achieving their full potential in the country's planning and development." **Bernama**



Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail