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Proud to be here: Dr Mahathir standing in front of the new 22m stainless steel signage at Dataran Putra in Putrajaya. — Bernama

Prime Minister launches new Putrajaya signage

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PUTRAJAYA: Tourists at the federal administrative hub of Putrajaya will now have a new landmark to take photos of – a 22m stainless steel signage at Dataran Putra.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, as the man who founded the city during his first stint as prime minister, launched the signage which spells out “PUTRAJAYA” in bright, colourful images.

The monument is located in the middle of the Dataran Putra roundabout, parallel to the Prime

Minister’s Office at Perdana Putra in the background.

Putrajaya Corporation (PPj) president Datuk Dr Aminuddin Hassan said the signage was an idea from PPj’s young officers, inspired by similar city signages in other countries that have become tourist attractions.

“We had a meeting with the Prime Minister and tabled to him several projects that we are planning to execute in order to enliven Putrajaya.

“This signage is the first one. We are grateful it could be completed in a short amount of time,” he told

reporters after the unveiling ceremony.

Aminuddin said the spot of the signage in Precinct 1 was chosen due to its significance as the foundation of where Putrajaya had started.

“The graphics on the letters of the signage changes every six months, based on the current theme of the time.

“We chose this one to be colourful as it reflects Malaysia’s colourful and diverse society,” said Aminuddin.

Dr Mahathir, who returned to power on May 11 as the seventh prime minister of Malaysia, had

expressed his disappointment over the present look of Putrajaya.

He was quoted as saying in an interview with *The Wall Street Journal* that Putrajaya had too many tall buildings and that residents preferred to drive instead of walking along its main boulevard.

He said he had envisioned Persiaran Perdana would look like Champs-Élysées in Paris with side roads and shops along the boulevard.

Putrajaya was declared a Federal Territory in 2001. It replaced Kuala Lumpur as the country’s administrative capital.

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