

Senior citizen activity centres to be set up

SERDANG: The government plans to set up a senior citizen activity centre known as Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (Pawe) in every parliamentary constituency in the country, says Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

The Deputy Prime Minister said the initiative was to encourage active ageing among Malaysians.

She said so far, 88 Pawe had been set up benefitting 36,900 registered senior citizens.

“The government aims to provide more such facilities for the benefit of senior citizens and other groups of the community,” she said when launching the Malaysian Ageing Research Institute (MyAgeing) complex at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) here yesterday.

Dr Wan Azizah, who is also Women, Family and Community Development Minister, said the public should support initiatives by the government to increase the welfare of senior citizens by promoting active ageing.

She added that the senior citizens themselves should think positive, practice a healthy lifestyle and get involved in activities that could contribute to the community.

According to data from the Department of Statistics, Malaysia will reach the status of an aged



Golden smiles:
Dr Wan Azizah (second left) sharing a light moment with some senior citizens during the launch of the MyAgeing complex at Universiti Putra Malaysia in Serdang.
— Bernama

nation by 2030 when citizens aged 60 and above will make up some 15% of the total population.

At that time, the country's population is expected to reach 38.1 million people, of which 5.8 million will be senior citizens.

UPM Vice-Chancellor Datin Dr

Aini Ideris said MyAgeing, which was previously known as Gerontology Institute, was set up on April 1, 2002, and was upgraded to the National Ageing Research Institute in 2015.

Since its formation, she said MyAgeing has conducted various

researches to build a database on Malaysian senior citizens.

— Bernama

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