

Dedicated cardiology centre soon

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Sabahans to benefit from immediate RM80mil fund

By STEPHANIE LEE
and SANDRA SOKIAL
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah is set to have its own cardiology centre soon, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He announced the establishment of the Sabah Cardiology Centre, a dedicated block for cardiology cases, at the Queen Elizabeth II main hospital here.

He said three cardiologists or heart specialists will be transferred here while an immediate allocation of RM80mil has been approved to start this project.

Anwar said this during the Madani Hari Raya open house at the Sabah International Convention Centre here yesterday.

In his speech, he said that the healthcare system in Sabah is quite limited and many have to fly to Peninsular Malaysia for various forms of treatment.

Among the works to be done for this new block would include upgrading existing infrastructure



Celebrating diversity: Anwar (centre) and Tun Juhar (left) attending the national-level Hari Raya Open House. — Bernama

such as the emergency unit, ward, daycares, loose equipment and associated works.

The current cardiology and cardiothoracic department provides 107 beds for patients, a specialist clinic, an invasive and non-invasive catheterisation laboratory I(CL) and a cardiothoracic operation theatre.

There are a total of 120 trained

nurses and the bed occupancy rate has reached 75% to date.

Earlier, Anwar said that the unity government will continue to focus on eradicating poverty and fulfilling the developmental needs of the people.

He said the good relations between the state and federal government benefit both parties, especially in terms

of developments.

Prior to that, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor said Sabah is proud to be among the hosts for the national-level Hari Raya celebrations, as it is an acknowledgement of the harmony and unity among the multi-cultural people of Sabah.

He said people in Sabah live peacefully and harmoniously in

its diversity.

“Harmony among race and religion is important. If we keep this up, we can continue to prosper and develop well,” he said.

Also present were Yang di-Per-tua Negeri Tun Juhar Mahiruddin, his wife Toh Puan Norlidah R.M. Jasni and other dignitaries.

About 20,000 people attended the Hari Raya Open House.

Anwar sends crowd into a frenzy at Madani Raya celebration

KOTA KINABALU: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim made a quick detour before entering his car, much to the pleasure of visitors attending the national-level Madani Raya Aidilfitri here.

All cell phones were up, trying to take selfies, and some were

reaching out to shake hands with the nation's top leader, with Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor trailing behind.

Both leaders were seen shaking hands with the crowd, and Anwar even entertained requests for autographs.

“This is very exciting. I only get

to see him on television. Today, I shook his hand,” said Mail Masmun from Kampung Likas.

The 55-year-old, who came to the event as early as 10am, said he would not mind a “wefie” with his wife and Anwar, but the crowd was just too overwhelming.

Cheryl Michael was glad that

she braved the crowd, just for a selfie with Anwar.

“He didn't look directly at my phone camera, but to have me, and him in the background is good enough,” said the 26-year-old.

It was estimated that about 25,000 visitors thronged the

Sabah International Convention Centre (SICC) for the event.

Also present were Yang di-Per-tua Negeri Tun Juhar Mahiruddin and wife Toh Puan Norlidah R.M. Jasni, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, as well as federal and state ministers.