

PM TO LAUNCH MARA MADANI WAKAF FUND ON MARCH 15

Endowment fund aims to generate funds to empower Bumiputera children, entrepreneurs

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will launch the Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) Madani Wakaf Fund next month.

Mara chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki said the launch of the endowment fund will be held on March 15 to coincide with Mara's 59th anniversary celebration and the first anniversary of the Bumiputera Economic Congress.

He said the establishment of the endowment fund was among the resolutions passed during the Bumiputera Economic Congress last year.

"With the launch of the endowment fund, we hope to generate more funds to empower Bumiputera children and entrepreneurs.

"During the event, there will be a presentation of a report card on the progress of the resolutions passed at last year's Bumiputera Economic Congress," he said at a briefing on the fund.



Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki speaking during a briefing on the launch of the Mara Madani Wakaf Fund and Mara's 59th anniversary celebration in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

Asyraf said Mara had obtained approval to be the *mutawalli* (administrator) of the Mara Madani Wakaf Fund from the Federal Territories Islamic Religious Council.

He said he was told that Mara could reach its target of raising RM1 billion under the fund.

"We have a large number of Mara alumni. There are some 22,000 Maktab Rendah Sains

Mara alumni.

"We have many alumni from 232 Giat Mara institutions. There are also the 150,000 people who have received Mara scholarships."

Asyraf vowed to ensure good governance in the management of the endowment fund to ensure it benefited Bumiputera children and entrepreneurs.

"Many successful alumni want

to help and support Mara. But they don't want to just donate money. They want something tangible."

Last year, Anwar announced that the government had agreed to establish the Mara Madani Wakaf Fund.

He said the fund aimed to raise RM1 billion over two years, spearheaded by Mara and executed by the Mara Education Foundation.