

MyDaftar Facilitates Possession Of Identification Documents
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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- For most Malaysians, an identification document is something to be proud of owning as it also provides access to a variety of government facilities including medical assistance, education and welfare.

However, the process of obtaining identification documents may at times be difficult, and in turn deprives the people of benefits despite having resided in the country for decades.

In an effort to address this issue, the government has taken measures including the MyDaftar programme launched by the Home Ministry in February 2011 which saw 100 applicants from Selangor and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur receiving their first identification documents from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in a ceremony, here Tuesday.

Santhi Manokaran, 13, who was among the youngest recipients, regarded herself as lucky for having been chosen among 6,527 applicants for identification documents since the campaign was launched.

"I used to envy my friends for having the identity cards when I didn't. Now, I'm just like them and this makes me happy," she told Bernama.

The Form One student at SMK Perempuan Raja Zarinah in Klang, who was left in the care of her foster mother in Klang after her father died and her Filipino mother abandoned her at a young age, vowed to study hard and enjoy all the educational facilities available.

Meanwhile, 53-year-old Veluthettil Vijaya Kumari, who holds permanent resident status, said obtaining citizenship was tough following the death of her Malaysian husband.

"MyDaftar was a ray of hope for me and now I own a blue identification card. I no longer experience problems when seeking medical assistance and my hope of buying a home will soon come true," she added, thanking the government for the precious gift.

For Sarayunnisa Arsad Ali, 75, her failed attempts to get an identity card began when she was 12.

"This is my third application and my second attempt was at age 35. I've sent letters for an answer but they always replied that my card wasn't ready.

"I am grateful that I now have an identification as this will make it easier for me to perform the umrah," she added.

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