

Pakatan to launch campaign for women votes
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 10 – Pakatan Rakyat (PR) will launch the Agenda Wanita Malaysia (Malaysian Women’s Agenda) this Thursday in a bid to draw support from women voters ahead of an intense electoral battle with the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition.

“This is another commitment by Pakatan Rakyat to women voters if Pakatan Rakyat gets the mandate to take over Putrajaya ...” PKR Wanita chief Zuraida Kamaruddin told reporters today.

Zuraida said that PR will launch a booklet focusing on seven key issues for women.

She declined to reveal the issues, but the booklet is expected to touch on healthcare, education and safety.

“Most importantly, we want women to be empowered.”

“In Agenda Wanita Malaysia, our philosophy that we use is “Hormat Wanita” (Respect to women),” she said.

When asked about the percentage of women in PR’s candidates list for the 13th general elections, Zuraida said she was confident that there is an increase but said “just maybe our hope to get 30 per cent is not achieved.”

She said that less than 10 per cent of the current national Budget goes towards the women’s ministry, while pointing out that women make up half of the country’s registered voters.

“The women ministry is a sideline ministry,” she said, adding that “we want to change this.”

She said the launch at Shah Alam will be attended by Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, PKR’s president Datuk Seri Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang and PAS’ president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang.

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