

**Zahid Announces RM400,000 Allocation to Upgrade Sentul Sikh Temple**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 14 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi Thursday announced a RM400,000 allocation to upgrade the Sentul Gurdwara Sahib.

He made the announcement in his speech at a tea reception at the Sikh temple in conjunction with 'Vaisakhi', the Sikh new year, today.

Ahmad Zahid said he hoped that the upgrading would enable the Sikh community to better organise religious activities at the temple.

"... any donations that this gurdwara gets should be channelled to other gurdwara in the country that need help," he said.

More than 1,000 members of the Sikh community had gathered at the temple to accord a warm welcome to the deputy prime minister.

Ahmad Zahid spent more than an hour at the temple meeting and conversing with the people.

Asked about a memorandum the Malaysian Gurdwara Council had submitted to the government in November 2015, he said it was being studied by the legal adviser to the Home Ministry.

The memorandum, among others, requested the approval of the ministry for Sikh priests, artists and musicians from India to serve at Sikh temples in the country for five years.

"I am sure that if the requirements are fulfilled, I will give appropriate consideration to the memorandum," said Ahmad Zahid.

Malaysian Gurdwara Council president Jagir Singh thanked the government for the allocation to upgrade the temple, which is almost 100 years old.

"This is great news for us, we appreciate what the government has done for us, thank you," he said.

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