

## **PM Wants Youth to Be Involved In Volunteerism**

**Bernama**

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PUCHONG, April 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Saturday urged the young people to be involved in volunteerism activities to help strengthen their identity.

He said the government was confident that young people could be moulded into a group that would bring the country to a higher level.

"Much has been done for the young people because we believe that if we can initiate them in efforts that are concrete, holistic and equipped with products and themes that are close to their soul, then they will become the group that brings success to the nation," he said.

Najib said this when officiating the iM4U Sentral in Puchong, here which is poised to become a youth development hub by placing facilities for volunteerism, human capital and sports activities.

Also present were Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar as iM4U mentor.

Najib also stressed on the aspect of sincerity to be practised by the young people by not hoping for monetary rewards as volunteerism could mould their identity.

According to the prime minister, youths who were strong and steadfast, would be better prepared to face future challenges.

He said the government was responsible for providing the site and opportunities for the young people to succeed but it depended on their own attitude.

"When the centre is ready, I hope it will become not only be a centre for entertainment but also a place to come together to generate creative ideas to change the country's future," he said, adding that in the process the youths themselves must also change.

He also made an announcement to establish the Volunteerism Award Malaysia to be divided into three categories, namely gold, silver and bronze.

"For those wishing to apply for jobs in the government sector, we will give added value to those who have registered as volunteers because we do not want only academic qualifications but leadership quality must also be given priority," he said.

iM4U Sentral, which occupies a 2.25-hectare site here, is equipped with two futsal, volleyball, basketball, sepak takraw courts, gym and a 500-capacity multipurpose hall called 'The Rectangle.'

iM4U Sentral, which was upgraded from the Puchong Rakan Muda complex since January last year, is also equipped with a hostel that can house 157 participants to enable youths from throughout the country to conduct activities in the complex which also has a pantry and laundry room.

The centre is also equipped with a radio station, iM4Ufm being aired via the 107.9 FM frequency in the Klang Valley.

At the function, the prime minister also presented four awards - the Best Volunteer Initiative 2015, Best Outreach Centre 2015, Best DRe1M Fund Initiative 2015 and iM4U Ambassador of the Year 2015.

The iM4U Sentral launch is part of the iM4U Day celebration to enable visitors to explore its facilities.

So far two million volunteers have registered with iM4U.

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