

'Arouse interest in space science among children'

By OLIVIA LEE

PROPER dissemination of knowledge and information on space exploration and science can help aspiring astronauts achieve their dream, said Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

The wife of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said, in order for the country to be recognised and be on par with the experts in the field, youngsters' interest ought to be guided and their talents developed at an early age.

"Space exploration is getting more vital for Malaysia. With hard work and determination, the children of today can be astronauts of the future," she said.

"We've conquered Mount Everest and swam the English Channel. The Malaysia Boleh spirit is in us. I'm sure we will be able to send a Malaysian to space," she said during the launch of Nespray's Space Book at 1 Utama Shopping

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Complex recently.

Dr Siti Hasmah said more organisations, like Nestle, should come forward to support and create projects that would help create awareness of space exploration among Malaysians, especially the younger generation.

Nestle Milks Grocery Group brand manager Ho Hau Chieh said the book, which came free with Nespray 1.4kg soft pack, would also be handed out to 8,848 schools nationwide and to orphanages in the Klang Valley.

Ho said the book was a collaboration with the Education Ministry and National Space Agency and would be beneficial to school children, especially those with a passion for space science.

"Nestle shares in the dream of Malaysia to put the first astronaut in space. In this respect, we believe the children must be nurtured at a young age so that their potential will grow to the fullest later on."



Dr Siti Hasmah giving encouragement to Intan Noor Suhada Saari, nine, (left) and Ummu Afiqah, seven, during the launch of Nespray's book in 1 Utama recently.