

Women's organisation launched in Negri Sembilan

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WOMEN in the state now have a new body to champion their causes with the launch of the Negeri Sembilan Women's Organisation (NSWO) in Seremban, recently.

The newly-minted body also received a massive boost in the form of a RM250,000 contribution from Mentri Besar Inc. (MBI) to further its objectives.

The NSWO's establishment is an attestation to the great strides made in women's causes in Negri Sembilan, over the past few years.

The 25 women's groups formerly affiliated to the NCWO (National Council for Women's Organisations) Negri Sembilan chapter now come under the patronage of the NSWO, the first women's organisation chapter in the country to strike out on its own.

While still affiliated to the NCWO, the NSWO now has its own constitution and operates as a separate entity.

NSWO president and Mentri Besar's wife Raja Datin Seri Salbiah Tengku Nujumudin said the organisation had finally come into its own and spoke volumes of its achievements.

"The local chapter of the NCWO was formed in 1991 to promote women's issues and development.



For the women: Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Raja Salbiah, state secretary Datuk Mat Ali Hassan (left) and state assembly speaker Datuk Dr Awaludin Said (second from left) at the launch of the Negeri Sembilan Women's Organisation (NSWO) in Seremban recently.

"This is a major achievement for women in the state because it means that we have the strength and capability to stand on our own. Women here can also be proud that we have our own building and the capacity to run programmes for the benefit of the 25 women's groups under our patronage," she said at the launch of the NSWO.

Affiliates of the new umbrella body include state chapters of Girl Guides Association of Malaysia, Wanita MCA, Wanita MIC, Nurses' Association as well

as women's wings of the Negeri Sembilan Ceylonese Association and Malaysian Sikh Union.

Expressing her gratitude to MBI for its generous contribution to its causes, Raja Salbiah said the funds would help the organisation run more activities including seminars and workshops for women and girls.

"We are fortunate to have our own assets which include a building which is large enough to facilitate our own programmes and those run by our affiliates," she said.

Raja Salbiah said the success of

the organisation also hinged on the cooperation of all its affiliates.

"We have about 350,000 members so it is essential that everyone works together towards the goals in our constitution," she said.

I'm also glad I have the support of an experienced committee to manage our bureaus," she said, grateful that she had the support of an experienced committee to manage the bureaus.

Among the objectives of the organisation were to improve women's health, education and social status and to encourage the fairer sex to contribute positively to the development of the state and nation building.

Mohamad who officially launched the NSWO also presided over the launch of the organisation's Parents' Sports Certification Programme in collaboration with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)'s Sports Academy.

The pilot programme, which is the first to be launched nationwide is a six-day course for parents with modules in sports management, sports science and a practical evaluation conducted by trainers from UPM's Sports Academy.

NSWO secretary and sports bureau head Jeyadhevi Subramaniam said the programme was tailored for the benefit of parents whose children were active in sports.