

Zahid wants to revive youth fund

Allocation will be coordinated under Youth and Sports Ministry, says DPM

By NEVILLE SPYKERMAN
and HANIS ZAINAL

newsdesk@thestar.com.my

SERDANG: Recognising jobs are hard to come by for some school-leavers, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi sounded the call to revive a fund to bolster entrepreneurship among youths.

The Deputy Prime Minister said he would propose to the Government to allocate at least RM500mil for the fund, which

would be coordinated under the Youth and Sports Ministry.

"We hope this allocation will encourage and strengthen the involvement of the young in entrepreneurship," he said during the launch of the 46th National Youth Day 2016 celebration at Universiti Putra Malaysia yesterday.

The Youth and Sports Ministry previously administered Tabung Ekonomi Belia but stopped giving out loans in 2009.

Dr Ahmad Zahid also announced

that RM10mil would be allocated to the Malaysian Youth Council (MBM) over a two-year period.

He said this funding was to help MBM run activities for youths in all states.

Dr Ahmad Zahid said opportunities must be given to youths to take up positions of leadership not only in politics but in business, too.

He also called on the young to set aside their differences and be united as Malaysians.

"Regardless of organisations,

there is only one Belia Malaysia," he said.

MBM president Muammar Gaddafi Jamal Jamaludin thanked Dr Ahmad Zahid for the allocation, saying that it would be used to train the next generation of MBM leaders.

Muammar Gaddafi said MBM would also focus on promoting voluntary programmes under Komuniti Sukarelawan Belia 1 Malaysia as well as technical and vocational education.

We hope this allocation will encourage and strengthen the involvement of the young in entrepreneurship.

Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi