



Headline	MARA aims to attract 300,000 visitors to its education carnivals		
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## MARA aims to attract 300,000 visitors to its education carnivals

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) aims to attract more than 300,000 visitors to its education carnivals to be held in 10 states this year.

Deputy Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Hassan Malek said the agency was confident of achieving the target following the response to its carnival last year which drew 270,000 visitors.

"Since 2000, the Mara education carnival has received encouraging response from the society, especially school leavers seeking for information to pursue higher studies or employment opportunities," he told reporters after opening the national-level 2013 Mara Education Carnival at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC)

here on Friday.

The carnival at PWTC ends today, following which it would be held in Pahang (March 23 and 24), Johor (March 30 and 31), Sabah (April 2 and 3), Sarawak (April 5 and 6), Perak (April 13 and 14), Kelantan (April 17 and 18), Kedah (April 20 and 21), Terengganu (April 24 and 25) and Penang (April 27 and 28).

Hassan said Mara, which celebrated its 47th anniversary last 11 March, would continue to play an important role as the country's transformation agent and mobilise the bumiputera community through entrepreneurship and education.

Since its establishment, he said, Mara had helped to produce competitive entrepreneurs in various

fields as well as human capital to meet the country's development demand.

Almost two million people had benefited from Mara, he said, adding that they included 687,249 students who graduated from Mara Educational Institutions (IPMA), like University of Kuala Lumpur, German Malaysian Institute (GMI), Mara Junior Science Colleges (MRSM).

He said Mara had also sponsored more than half a million students and trained almost 150,000 entrepreneurs.

Hassan said Mara had also formulated its own strategic plan for 2011 to 2015 in an effort to strengthen its role. - Bernama