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## Tree upkeep panel to meet this month

**PUTRAJAYA:** A special committee set up to monitor in detail the care of trees in the capital will hold its first meeting this month, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa.

"We will invite the Housing and Local Government Ministry to attend," she said at a Memorandum of Understanding and Supply Agreement of Renewable Energy event between Putrajaya Corporation and Tenaga Nasional Bhd yesterday.

Zaliha said among the stakeholders in the special committee are NGOs, arborists (woody plant experts) and experts from the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia.

The formation of the special committee was set up following several tree falling incidents due to heavy rain and strong winds.

On May 7 a toppled tree incident claimed a man's life and damaged 17 vehicles and part of a monorail track in Jalan Sultan Ismail.

On May 13, a fallen tree in Jalan Pinang damaged a police vehicle that was escorting Malacca Chief Minister Datuk Seri Ab Rauf Yusof, while on May 25 toppled trees at several locations in Kuala Lumpur damaged vehicles and blocked roads.

- Bernama