KOTA KINABALU: The Sepanggar Wanita Umno has drawn up a comprehensive strategy to help Barisan Nasional (BN) to wrest back the Sepanggar parliament seat, now held by the opposition, in the forthcoming 13th general elections.

Its head, Datuk Jainab Ahmad said the strategy was expected to also help BN retain its Karambunai state seat. Among the measures are to get close to the people by finding out their problems and helping to solve them, reducing bureaucratic red-tape and fostering close cooperation among BN component members as well as government agencies within the Sepanggar area, she said.

"For us, it is more important to get close to the people by finding out their problems and helping to solve them, reducing bureaucratic red-tape and fostering close cooperation among BN component members as well as government agencies within the Sepanggar area, she said.

"We must be close to the people, be friendly and also be mindful of our speech so as not to create any misunderstanding," she said.

She said the Sepanggar Umno Wanita was concerned about the youths and was providing them with latest information about job opportunities in various public and private sectors. "We disseminate information about courses, seminars and workshops on skills improvement to enable them to be involved in business," she said.

"For youths and school graduates who are interested in the information and technology (IT) or other areas, we encourage them to attend computer skills courses," she added.

In an effort to help the government to reduce poverty particularly in the Sepanggar area, Jainab said women folks were also encouraged to be involved in business such as handicrafts and small business activities.

She urged women leaders in the Sepanggar area to work with the People Development Leader’s Unit (UPKR) and Village Development and Security Committee (JKKK) in identifying those eligible for government assistance such as the e-Kasih and Hardcore Poor Housing (PPRT) programme.

She said the government was doing its best to provide infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools, water and electricity supply to the people in the Sepanggar area.