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MAHATHIR-SEPAK RAGA  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 31 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TRADITIONAL GAME OF SEPAK RAGA BULATAN WILL BECOME MORE POPULAR AMONG THE YOUNGER GENERATION.

HE SAID IT WAS BETTER FOR THEM TO PLAY THE GAME DURING THEIR FREE TIME THAN TO +GO FOR RIDES ON MOTORCYCLES+.

TAKING PART IN GAMES AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES COULD HELP DEVELOP THEIR MINDS AND PHYSIQUE, HE SAID WHEN PRESENTING PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS TO WINNERS AND PARTICIPANTS OF THE MERDEKA CUP SEPAK RAGA TOURNAMENT HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO POPULARISE SEPAK RAGA BULATAN AMONG THE YOUNG.

HE ALSO TOOK PRIDE IN THE INTEREST SHOWN BY THE PARTICIPANTS AS WELL AS SABAH'S VICTORY OVER THE OTHER STATES IN THE TOURNAMENT. -- MORE

1948MST 31 08 87

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FOURTEEN TEAMS TOOK PART IN THE TOURNAMENT WHICH BEGAN SATURDAY. PERAK CAME IN SECOND WHILE MELAKA WAS THIRD.

PERLIS RECEIVED A SPECIAL \$150 PRIZE FOR HAVING THE BEST TRADITIONAL COSTUME.

PRESENT WERE THE PRIME MINISTER'S WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ALI, DEPUTY ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS MINISTER ABDUL GHANI OTHMAN, DEPUTY NATIONAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DATUK TAJOL ROSLI AND DEPUTY INFORMATION MINISTER RAILEY HAJI JEFREY. -- BERNAMA

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