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MAHATHIR-SPORTS ,  
BM

KUCHING, JULY 27A (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA SHOULD SHOW TO THE WORLD THAT ITS MULTIRACIAL PEOPLE CAN UNITE AS A MALAYSIAN RACE, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT.

HE SAID IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR A COUNTRY WITH VARIOUS RACES TO DETERMINE ITS RACIAL IDENTITY BUT MALAYSIA HAD SUCCEEDED IN ACHIEVING WHAT COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED BY MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.

+WE CAN PAT OURSELVES ON THE BACK BECAUSE OF THIS ACHIEVEMENT,+ HE SAID WHEN CLOSING THE THIRD MALAYSIA GAMES (SUKMA) AT STADIUM NEGERI HERE.

HE SAID MALAYSIA WAS A MULTIRACIAL COUNTRY THAT WAS SUCCESSFUL AND RECOGNISED BY THE WHOLE WORLD.

HE SAID SPORTS WAS NOT ONLY A FIELD TO TAP NEW TALENTS BUT ALSO AN ARENA TO UNITE THE PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. -- MORE  
2259MST 27 07 90

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MAHATHIR-SPORTS 2 KUCHING

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS PROUD OF THIS YEAR'S SUKMA AND CONGRATULATED ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN MAKING IT A SUCCESS, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT SERVANTS, MASS MEDIA, AND THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF SARAWAK.

HE ALSO CONGRATULATED THE SUCCESSFUL ATHLETES INCLUDING THE HOSTS WHO BAGGED 44 GOLD MEDALS AND ADVISED THE LOSERS TO KEEP ON TRYING.

HE SAID THE STRONG SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK TO SUKMA, ESPECIALLY THE SPECTATORS, WAS A RECORD IN THE COUNTRY'S SPORTS AND EVEN THE RESPONSE TO THE SEA GAMES IN KUALA LUMPUR LAST YEAR COULD NOT MATCH THIS.

EARLIER, CHIEF MINISTER TAN SRI HAJI ABDUL TAIB MAHMUD, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE CLOSING, DECLARED MONDAY A PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOR SARAWAK BECAUSE OF THE STATE'S SUCCESS IN STAGING SUKMA.

HE SAID THE SUCCESS WAS DUE TO THE COOPERATION FROM THE OTHER STATES AND THIS SHOWED THAT THE NATION MOVED AS ONE IN MOBILISING ITS PEOPLE FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS. -- MORE  
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R E800 AAE  
MAHATHIR-SPORTS 3 KUCHING

HE SAID SUKMA HAD SHOWN THAT THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK WERE ON PAR WITH THOSE FROM THE OTHER STATES AND THAT THEY WANTED TO FRATERNISE WITH ALL MALAYSIANS.

YOUTH AND SPORTS MINISTER DATUK NAJIB TUN RAZAK SAID FOUR FACTORS HAD MADE THIS THIRD SUKMA THE BEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL.

THEY ARE THE FRIENDLINESS OF THE HOST STATE AND ITS PEOPLE, THE COLOURFUL OPENING, THE QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE OF THE ATHLETES WHICH HAD IMPROVED WITH 38 RECORDS BROKEN AND THE WIDE PUBLICITY GIVEN BY THE MASS MEDIA. -- BERNAMA  
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