

16 DEC 1996

Everest

TEN CLIMBERS TO LEAD ASSAULT ON MOUNT EVEREST

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 16 (Bernama) -- Youth and Sport Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today announced the names of the 10 people who will spearhead Malaysia's challenge to conquer Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain.

They are Aimi Zairin Mohamed, Borhan Ibrahim, Gary Choong, Magendran a/l Munusamy, Mohamed Fauzan Hassan, Mahanadas a/l Nagapan, Mohmed Rizan Mat Hassan, Moorthy a/l Maniam, R. Ramakrisnan and Zahidi Paiman.

The two on the reserve list at Teo Lee Lee and Zahari Salleh. The announcement was made at the Malaysia-Everest '97 project secretariat in Jalan Ampang, here.

They were among 20 mountaineers who underwent training in preparation for the expedition to realise Malaysia's dream to conquer the mountain.

Malaysian Mountain Climbing Association president Nor Ramlle Sulaiman said the 10 were selected based on their performance and endurance at the training which started two years ago.

He said other climbers would join them as back-up team to help the expedition committee throughout the climb.

The 10 would climb Mount Kinabalu and remain on the mountain peak for 10 days to acclimatise themselves before the assault on Mount Everest, he said.

The Malaysia-Everest '97 project mooted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is organised by the association and the Malaysian Sports Culture Foundation with cooperation from the Youth and Sports Ministry, the Utusan Group and RTM.

The expedition will start in March next year and continue until early June.

-- BERNAMA

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