

01/10/1997

Environmental education to be featured at exposition

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Environmental education, especially the conservation of marine ecosystem, will be among the features of the Second Diving Equipment and Travel Exposition (Dema Asia '97).

Malaysia Sport Diving Association president Mukhriz Mahathir said the exposition would include exhibition booths and educational demonstrations, reserved for giving insight on the subject.

"There is especially a need to educate the young on the preservation of the marine ecosystem because through it we can inculcate environmental awareness.

"This I believe could lead to the creation of a more environmentally-conscious society in the future."

Mukhriz was speaking after attending an art competition prize presentation ceremony held at the Hong Kong Bank building.

Titled "Our Sea - Our Children's Legacy", the competition which was for Federal Territory's primary and lower secondary school children was jointly co-organised by MSDA and the Fisheries Department.

It was held in conjunction with Dema Asia '97 and was sponsored by Hong Kong Bank Malaysia Sdn Bhd. Deputy chief executive officer Peter Boyle presented the prizes.

In the individual water colour competition, Ng Chooi Dhoong, 12, won the first prize while Loo Jie Hsin, 11, was in second place. Haw Pei Yeing, 12, emerged third.

Ng, Loo and Haw received a trophy each and a Hong Kong Bank savings account worth RM500, RM300 and RM200 respectively.

In the three dimensional art presentation category, Sekolah Menengah Datuk Lokman Kampung Pandan won a personal computer and a total of RM1,500 in savings account for its three-member team.

Sekolah Menengah Perempuan Air Panas Setapak and Sekolah Menengah Puteri Ampang won RM900 and RM600 for second and third placing respectively.

Meanwhile, the Fisheries Department director Datuk Mazlan Jusoh in an interview at his office today said the dinner to be held in conjunction with Dema Asia '97 would be at the Putra World Trade Centre on Oct 2.

He said the dinner, which aims to raise fund for the Marine Parks and Marine Reserves Trust Fund, would be attended by the Prime Minister's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali.

The Fisheries Department is the co-organiser of Dema Asia '97 together with MSDA.

Mazlan said so far RM200,000 had been collected and he expressed hope that more donors, especially from the private sector, would contribute generously.

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