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Ceremony to honour excellent journalists

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - A former journalist turned politician will receive the Tokoh Wartawan Negara, the highest accolade in Malaysian journalism, during the Malaysian Journalism Awards presentation on Monday.

Before becoming involved in politics, the award winner, who will only be named during the ceremony, worked in various capacities in the media industry, including as a journalist, editor and publisher.

Twenty-three journalists from various local publications will also receive awards and cash prizes totalling RM121,000 at the ceremony during the biennial Commonwealth Press Union conference at the Shangri-La Hotel.

The Tokoh Wartawan Negara, which had been awarded to such august figures as Tan Sri Samad Ismail and Tan Sri Lee Siew Yee, will be given out by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Other awards to be handed out include the Kajai Award and the Excellent Journalist Award. Each winner will also take home RM10,000.

The awards are under the auspices of the Malaysian Press Institute.

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