

27/04/1998

Determination vital for success: PM

Kamarul Yunus

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday urged Malaysians to emulate the dedication and determination shown by athletes so as to boost their fighting spirit and help them face challenges.

"In times of an economic downturn, we hope this determination to achieve success can be extended so that we will be able to face future challenges thrown at us," he said when closing the Seventh Malaysia Games (Sukma) at the Shah Alam indoor stadium last night.

He said several Malaysians have been an international success in various fields, and they achieved this through commitment and determination.

"We must face risks and challenges to show that we can compete with foreigners. If we train properly, we can be champions," he added.

He cited Malaysia's Mount Everest and North Pole freefall parachuting teams as some of those who had reached great heights internationally and made the country proud.

On sports, Dr Mahathir said he hopes those participating in Sukma will continue to improve themselves and have the determination to win a medal at the Commonwealth Games in September.

Dr Mahathir also presented the inaugural Prime Minister's challenge trophy to Selangor for being overall champion and named the Best Male and Female Athletes of the games.

A total of 76 games records were set and 13 national records were broken - weightlifting (6), swimming (6) and athletics (1).

Penang will host the 8th Sukma to be held in the year 2000.

(END)