

09 DEC 1998

Mohamed-Records

MALAYSIA BOOK OF RECORDS LAUNCHED

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 9 (Bernama) -- Information Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahma tonight launched the Malaysia Book of Records and jokingly requested his name to be included in the book as he is among the longest serving politicians in the government.

He said he has worked under four prime ministers and many, many deputy prime ministers since his active involvement in Umno.

Mohamed, who represented Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said he was happy to be associated with the Malaysia Book of Records in the sense that its initials, MBR, is similar to his, Mohamed Bin Rahmat, which is also MBR.

"And since I have more years than this book, so to speak, therefore I should stake my claim of being the rightful owner of these initials and the first to be associated with it," he said.

In the more serious note, the minister congratulated R & D Communication Sdn Bhd for working against the odds since 1995 to produce the book.

He said the book was a project mooted in line with the clarion call by the government to all Malaysians to play their role in nation-building towards achieving vision 2020.

He believed that the book should and would find a place in every Malaysian homes as the publication details feats achieved by Malaysians who might have been inadvertently ignored, if not left in oblivion.

"This should not be the case because we, Malaysians, value the proud achievements of our people over the years.

"For a mere RM79, I feel that this 300-page book is a good investment for our homes, offices, and of course, our future generation," he said.

He said for once, Malaysian-own national record-breakers were noted for posterity's sake and he was confident their feats, no matter how small they might be, would spur others to become feat achievers.

The Raja Muda of Selangor, Tengku Idris Shah, the first Malaysian to complete the Beijing-Paris Motor Challenge were among the achievers who received their awards tonight.

Others include the first blind lawyer, Mah Hassan, Malaysia's strongest man, Letchemanah, Sarjan Sapo Biiki, the boxer who won a gold medal in the Commonwealth Games, Major Emilia Kamaruddin, the first female jet fighter pilot, Omar Abbas, the oldest man in Malaysia, Ho Sun Foo, the tallest man and Sharuddin Yusof, the first man to abseil the KL Tower.

The launching was telecast live by RTM.

-- BERNAMA

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