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Chua to Harakah: Stop politicising medical system

MUAR, Sun. - Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng today hit out at Pas-controlled Harakah for politicising the Malaysian health system.

He said the newsletter's claims that the system was not functioning well was "baseless and politically-motivated".

"Pas is totally ignorant of the fact that the World Health Organisation presented a Gold Award in 1994 to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in recognition of Malaysia's sound health system, especially its accessibility to people of all walks of life," he said.

Chua was speaking to reporters after attending the presentation of a Certificate of Recognition and RM20,000 from the Malaysian Government by Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin to the Kun Seng Keng lion dance troupe for winning the world championship for seven consecutive years.

A Johor Lion dance competition participated by 12 teams from all eight Johor districts was held simultaneously with the function today. Also present was Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Loke Yuen Yow.

Chua said Malaysia's health system was one of the best in the Pacific region.

"We do not want the medical and health service to be politicised. The Government will continue to provide the best medical services possible.

"In fact, the Government is subsidising 97 per cent of the cost of medicine.

"We have a clinic within a 50km radius of every house and 95 per cent of Peninsula Malaysians are served by medical and health staff.

"Our network of clinics and health facilities are among the highest in the world," he said.

Chua said the Government would continue to recruit more doctors, specialists, nurses and other medical staff and buy advanced equipment to ensure Malaysia's health services are up-to-date.

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