

09/05/1999

Dr M to attend Youth Day celebration

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will attend the Youth Day celebration to be held at Stadium Putra in Bukit Jalil on May 15.

More than 10,000 youths are expected to participate in this year's celebration themed, Patriotisme Belia Memantapkan Kestabilan Negara.

Youth Day Campaign and Publicity Committee joint chairman Zamri Abu Yazid said the celebration aims to recognise the contribution of youths toward the country's development.

Zamri is also Youth and Sports Ministry assistant director (international sports secretariat).

The event is being jointly organised by the Youth and Sports Ministry and the Malaysian Youth Council.

The national-level celebrations will be held in the second and third week of this month," he said.

Zamri said as a run-up to Youth Day, about 100 heads of the various youth organisations will call on Dr Mahathir on Monday.

"Apart from having a dialogue, the visit is also to show their support to the country's leadership and the need for continuity in its development agenda."

Zamri said this year's celebration would focus on ways to inspire youths with programmes of interest and the need for them, and the society in general, to be more sensitive and committed.

He said the event was also being held to give greater publicity on the Government's youth development programmes.

"The programmes are tailored towards producing knowledgeable youths, with emphasis towards self and national development as a foundation to create future leaders," he said.

Apart from youth organisations, others who will be taking part in the celebration include students from institutions of higher learning, voluntary organisations, athletes, arts and cultural organisations, martial arts/self-defence organisations, young entrepreneurs/farmers/planters, recreational clubs, factory workers and the special/disabled youths.

Zamri said 11 awards will be given away to mark the celebration.

These include the National Youth Award 1998 (Anugerah Belia Negara), Best Association, Best Voluntary Organisation, Innovation and Creative, Best Skills, Entrepreneurship, Cultural Award, Special Youth and Journalism Award.

Zamri said a panel of judges chaired by the Youth and Sports Ministry's secretary-general, would decide the winners.

The winners would receive RM5,000, a certificate and challenge trophy.

Zamri said winners of the Youth Day logo contest would also be given their prizes at the ceremony.

The first prize winner is Mohamed Fazli Mohd Aini from Kuala Lumpur who will receive RM1,500, and a certificate.

The second prize was won by Selangor's Ismady Yusof who will receive RM1,000 and a certificate while the third prize of RM750 went to Ahmad Fauzee Nee, also of Selangor.

(END)