

18 SEP 1999

Mahathir-Hang-gliding

DR MAHATHIR LAUNCHES HANG-GLIDING CHALLENGE

KUNDASANG, Sept 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the Malaysia Invitation Hang-gliding Championship at the Gunung Kinabalu Golf Club, about 10km from the Kundasang National Park.

In his speech, he said the event, called the Kinabalu Challenge '99, would give another boost to the tourism industry in Sabah in the near future.

"I am confident that we can attract many tourists to this state if we use our assets, especially Southeast Asia's highest mountain Mount Kinabalu, the best way possible," he said.

As such, the Prime Minister hoped that inaugural Kinabalu Challenge would be made an annual event and, if possible, with the participation of local hang-gliders.

"I am quite sure those who have glided here might have seen from the air how beautiful the ground of the country is," he said.

He said most hang-gliding was done in other climates which in terms of vegetation were not as rich as Malaysia's.

He hoped that the hang-gliders and para-gliders would list this meet in their calendar.

He was confident that Malaysia's assets and beautiful scenery would enable it to win the bid to hold the 2003 World Hang-gliding Championship.

A total of 10 world-class hang-gliders from the United States, Australia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany and France took part in the meet.

-- BERNAMA

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