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DR MAHATHIR HANDS OVER FLAG TO MALAYSIAN SKYDIVING TEAM

PUTRA JAYA, Dec 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today handed over the Malaysian flag to a team of parachutists who will be jumping from planes some 10,000 feet over the South Pole.

The flag was handed over to the eight-member team at the Prime Minister's Office here in a brief ceremony which included a pledge by the members to do their utmost to enhance the name of the nation.

A spokesman of the team said Malaysia is the only Asian country to take part in the high altitude-low opening parachute jump dubbed the Millennium Jump 2000 -- Malaysian Time Capsule Mission For Mankind.

He said the jump on Dec 31 involving nine countries is part of the Millennium Expedition which is part of the 45th Russian Antarctic Expedition, a scientific expedition in the harsh Antarctic environment.

Among the eight parachutists were 60-year-old retired army major Abdul Shukor Nasarudin and 41-year-old housewife Nordziah Mohamed Nor.

The Millennium Jump is jointly organised by Fikiran Syndicate and Q-Training with the cooperation of the Youth and Sports Ministry.

-- BERNAMA

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