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PM to get recommendations on beefing up Rakan Muda scheme

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The Youth and Sports Ministry will submit to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad a report with a list of recommendations on the Rakan Muda programme by the end of the month.

Its Minister Datuk Hishammuddin Hussein said, among others, it would feature names of ministries that should be involved in the revival of the Rakan Muda programmes.

"We have to involve all ministries and government agencies which have a role to play in youth development. After 10 years since its implementation, it is time for us now to take a look at the Rakan Muda programme and inject some new ideas."

Hishammuddin said it included his ministry, the Education Ministry, National Unity and Social Development Ministry, Rural Development Ministry and the religious departments.

He said this to reporters after launching the Big Boys Toys exhibition at the Putra World Trade Centre today.

The exhibition, which is highly popular in Australia and New Zealand, is being held at the Putra World Trade Centre until Sunday.

It features a wide range of luxury cars, powerful boats, personal light aircraft, hi-tech products, collectors items, sports and recreational services.

At the function, Hishammuddin also launched the Racing Professional School, the first of its kind in the country, aimed at training professional racers.

Hishammuddin had said last month that the Rakan Muda programme would be revived to implement programmes that would benefit youths.

He had said that a Cabinet Committee on youth development to be chaired by Dr Mahathir would be set up to look into the matter.

On complaints regarding the various problems which occurred in the Malaysia Games or Sukma, currently held in Penang, Hishammuddin said it was the same case every year and urged organisers to ensure there was no recurrence.

The problems range from complaints of poor management, food poisoning to inadequate facilities in the media centre.

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