

Dr M: Top

events

require

volunteers

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SERI KEMBANGAN: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants Malaysians to embrace the spirit of volunteerism so that more world-class sporting events can be held in the country.

He said it would be difficult to host world-class events like Le Tour de Langkawi and Formula One without the help of volunteers.

He expressed hope that the culture of volunteerism would take a firm hold in the country and urged all relevant parties to help nurture this spirit especially among the young.

"World-class events can only be successfully organised if we have volunteers. Because of the sheer number of volunteers needed, it will be impossible for the organisers to pay them salaries.

"Thankfully, there are many Malaysians willing to help, so we are able to host many such events successfully," he said at a luncheon hosted by Telekom Malaysia for sponsors and volunteers of the 2001 Le Tour de Langkawi here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir also commended Malaysians for fully supporting such events, especially those who came out in full force to cheer the participants.

"I am very happy with this changing attitude of the people, especially since Malaysians are known for being less demonstrative," he said.

Dr Mahathir also presented prizes to winners of a TV quiz held in conjunction the Tour.

The quiz offered a Proton Wira 1.5 car sponsored by Proton as the main prize.

The lucky first-prize winner was Atiyansa @ Mardhiyyah Mohamad Salleh of Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur.