

Letter to the PM contest Nst - 2 AUG 2001 open to students

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Fancy writing a letter to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and having your letter not only read by the PM himself but also published in this newspaper?

Well, if you are a secondary school student between 13 and 18, you can now take part in the "Dear Prime Minister ..." contest, pour your heart out to the PM and stand a chance to win some cash.

The contest is a joint effort by the *New Straits Times* and Coca-Cola Malaysia and is organised in conjunction with the 44th Merdeka Day celebration.

"We were inspired to organise the contest after reading the article carried by the *New Sunday Times* on the Prime Minister," said Coca-Cola Far East Limited external affairs director Mohamed Kadri Mohamed Taib.

The article on Dr Mahathir to commemorate his 20th anniversary as Prime Minister appeared on July 22.

Kadri said: "The youths are our future leaders. We hope they could share with us their visions and what they hope the country will achieve in the future."

The letters need not be written in a formal manner.

They could be written in any way imaginable as long as it doesn't sound too negative or critical.

The contest is divided into two groups — lower secondary (Forms One to Three) and upper secondary (Forms Four and Five).

The best letter for each category will win a RM5,000 scholarship and a trophy.

Twenty letters will be shortlisted and published in *YouthQuake* (a section of NST) on Aug 24 and 31.

Winners will receive their prizes from the Prime Minister himself before Merdeka Day.

Letters must be written in English in about 300 words and must contain the writer's information (name, IC number, age, the form they are in, and name of school). The letters must be endorsed by the school principal.

All entries must be sent to: The Editor, NST/Coca-Cola Merdeka Contest, Box 392, Lot 7.20, 7th Floor, Wisma Central, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur.

Closing date for the contest is Aug 18.