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PM: We are good

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday expressed his happiness on the growth of equestrian sports, saying Malaysia now have world-class riders in showjumping, dressage and endurance riding.

The 76-year-old premier, who is a avid horse-rider himself, said he could see the sport visibly growing, especially over the last one year, and this he said could bring more Malaysians to take up the sport.

He said our showjumping and dressage riders are now of world standard while we have a rider who has won many world-class endurance championship, referring to Bukit Kiara club boss Datuk Awang Kamaruddin Abdul Ghani who is a regular on the world circuit since 1998.

"The fact that riders from many countries are participating in meets here showed the world recognise Malaysia (in equestrian)," he said after witnessing the TNB World Cup Grand Prix showjumping competition at the Selangor Polo and Riding Club.

The TNB meet is part of a string of national meets held this year while three more meets, scheduled to be participated by more Games riders who are acclimatising their horses here, will be held in August. Dr Mahathir said TNB are in the midst of organising a big endurance event here, emulating world-class races in Europe.

Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) chairman Datuk Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis said TNB would organise a world-class meet near Putrajaya before the year ends.

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