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RM775,000 in cash incentives for 185 athletes

A TOTAL of 185 athletes will be given cash incentives amounting to RM775,000 when the National Sports Council presents its cash incentive scheme in Kuala Lumpur today.

Although, the amount is nothing compared with the estimated RM40 million spent on preparing the athletes for the Sea Games, the NSC hopes that the incentive scheme will spur the national athletes to aim for greater heights in the future.

In a faxed statement yesterday, Sports Minister Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said that the incentive was a form of recognition for the sacrifice and achievement of the athletes in the Games.

"The amount, however, cannot compare to the sacrifice and efforts put in by the athletes in preparing for the Games," said Hishammuddin.

"While I am proud that the athletes have attained success in the Games, it is time for the athletes to set their sights on the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games next year."

Hishammuddin also said that the success of the Games will not be possible without the help and support from the Malaysian people and singled out the thousands of volunteers for special mention.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were the guests of honour.

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