

15/07/2002

Farmers' Day bash in Pendang today

ALOR STAR, Sun. - The six-day State-level Farmers, Fishermen and Breeders Day celebration to be held in Pendang from tomorrow will be remembered by many in Kedah's agriculture sector.

They will cherish the celebration, themed "Transforming Agriculture Through Technology", as it will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir last launched the national-level celebration in Kedah in September 1981.

Some 10,000 farmers, fishermen and breeders are expected to attend the ceremony at Taman Rekreasi Pendang, near Pendang town.

Kedah Farmers Organisation Board public relations officer Shahizan Hassan said various activities had been lined up for the celebration.

Among them are exhibitions, demonstrations and sale of agricultural products.

The highlight will be the promotion of honey.

"Visitors will also have the opportunity to taste food cooked with honey like honeyed quail and talapia, as well as pure honey.

"Visitors can also buy fruits, vegetables and other farm produce."

Shahizan said the celebration had been held in all districts except Pendang, Kubang Pasu and Sik.

"We usually rotate the venue, and this time we have selected Pendang."

Mohd Yusof Ismail, 38, a farmer's son who had gone into construction from selling fish, vegetables and fruits 10 years ago, said Dr Mahathir's presence would give a boost to the farmers.

Yusof, now a class A contractor, still manages a 25-hectare orchard in Kuala Nerang, where he grows petai, durian and longan.