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Sports-Badminton (Hasmah)

THOMAS CUP DEFEAT WAS DISAPPOINTING, SAYS DR SITI HASMAH

KUALA LUMPUR, May 20 (Bernama) -- Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) patron Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali has expressed disappointment over Malaysia's 3-2 defeat to Indonesia in the Thomas Cup final yesterday.

However, she said the team had done well to enter the final.

"That defeat was disappointing and luck was not on our side," she told reporters at the RMAF station in Subang near here today after sending off her husband Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir left for a two-day working visit to Japan, which will be followed by a trip to South Korea on Wednesday.

Dr Siti Hasmah said she was happy that Malaysia had upset hosts China 3-1 in the semi-finals.

"The win over China was an achievement, and qualifying for the final was a bonus," she said.

Malaysia's target was the semi-finals but they went all the way and took the fight to arch-rivals and defending champions Indonesia in the final in Guangzhou.

Malaysia have won the Cup five times, the last being in 1992 in Kuala Lumpur.

-- BERNAMA

RZS HK YBY