

06 AUG 2003

PREMIER CUP BADMINTON TOURNAMENT KICKS OFF TODAY

MELAKA, Aug 6 (Bernama) -- The 18th Premier Cup Badminton Tournament participated by 12 state contingents began today at the Stadium Mini Bestari, Ayer Keroh here.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam opened the championship scheduled for four days.

Also present was the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali in her capacity as President of Bakti from the Federal Territory.

A total of 154 participants are taking part in the championship with Sabah as the favoured contingent to retain the trophy which they had won since 1998.

Dr Siti Hasmah, when met by reporters, said Bakti had a mission to wrest the Premier Cup from Sabah.

Bakti had won the championship thrice in 1988, 1989 and 1992.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to close the championship on Saturday.

-- BERNAMA

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