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SCHOLARSHIP WILL RAISE STANDARD OF MALAYSIAN SPORTS TO HIGHER LEVEL

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 12 (Bernama) -- The government's move to provide scholarships to outstanding athletes to pursue further studies will help raise the standard of Malaysian sports to higher level.

National long distant runner M.Ramachandran said athletes should view it as yet another incentive to improve their performances.

"It is a wise move by the government as it will encourage national athletes to win for the country," he said when contacted here today.

He said that with such incentive, national athletes could plan their future by eventually going into coaching of their chosen field.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in announcing the incentive in the Budget 2004 said the scholarships would enable athletes to further their studies locally or overseas to enable them to become coach or manager in their respective fields.

Former national sprinter Azmi Ibrahim also welcomed the government's move and athletes should take advantage of it.

"I see it as an incentive to prepare oneself to bring glory to the country in any international competition," said Azmi.

--BERNAMA

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