

21/06/2004

OCM honour Siti Hasmah

By S. Selvam

TUN Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, affectionately known as "mother of Malaysian sports" was named as the recipient of the Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) Women in Sport award in Kuala Lumpur last night.

Siti Hasmah, wife of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and patron of the BA of Malaysia (BAM), was chosen over five other nominees as OCM paid tribute to women who have contributed to the development of sports in the country.

The other nominees were 1988 Seoul Olympic Games taekwondo bronze medallist M. Vasugi, Malaysian AAU vice president Rajemah Sheikh Ahmad, Malaysian Netball Association president Tengku Datin Seri Noor Hazah Tengku Abdul Aziz Shah, Disabled Athletics Association advisor Datin Fauziah Mohd Ramly and coach for disabled athletes T. Jayanyagee.

"Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali was selected based on her efforts in influencing the participation and performance of athletes in sport, and particularly women athletes in badminton," said OCM president Tunku Imran Tuanku Ja'afar.

"She has also shown the same commitment and zest when she became the patron of BAM.

"Her involvement in sports has also made her an affectionate mother figure in sports and has the ability to motivate players to bring the best out of them," said Tunku Imran.

The recipient of the award will also be automatically nominated for the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Women and Sport award.

(END)