

MHF to offer top seat to Dr M?

THE Malaysian Hockey Federation will approach Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to fill the president's seat vacated by Tun Hussein Onn.

Tun Hussein gave up the president's post following his resignation as Prime Minister last July.

An MHF official said that deputy president Raja Tan Sri Azlan Shah would soon be meeting Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir to discuss the matter.

Heavy schedule

But he added that there is a possibility that the Prime Minister might decline the presidency because of his heavy schedule.

Should this be the case, then MHF are likely to approach Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam to fill the vacancy.

"We would like to maintain the tradition of having a Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister as MHF president," said the official.

Ever since MHF was formed on Oct 12, 1963, following the dissolution of the Malayan Hockey Federation the same day, the national hockey association has been headed by either a Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister.

Successor

The first MHF president was Tun Abdul Razak, who was then the Deputy Prime Minister. He retained the post when he became Prime Minister in 1971.

On his death in 1975, his successor, the then Datuk Hussein Onn, took over as MHF president.

Now that Tun Hussein has stepped down, the MHF annual meeting on Nov 15 will face the task of electing a new president. The meeting will also elect office bearers for the coming year.

MHF secretary G. Vijayanathan declined to comment when asked on the possibility of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir taking over as president.

"I do not want to speculate, especially with the annual meeting so close," he said.

On the stopover in Malaysia of the Indian national junior team, Mr Vijayanathan said that their dates of arrival and departure have yet to be confirmed.

He has, however, sent a telegram to the Indian Hockey Association asking for more details, including the number of matches that they hope

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to play in Malaysia.

If possible, the Malaysian junior and World Cup squad may be able to play against the Indians, who are on their way to Hong Kong to take part in the qualifying rounds for the Junior World Cup to be held in Kuala Lumpur next year.

On the Ravindran affair, he said that he has already replied to the Penang HA letter sent to him last week.

"I replied in my capacity as MHF secretary because the letter was addressed to me and not the MHF council," said Mr Vijayanathan.

He, however, would not disclose the contents of the letter except to say that it contained six pages.

Bahan asal dari Arkib
Negara Malaysia