

The sky is the limit, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Michelle Yeoh, Siti Nurhaliza and Amber Chia are among the celebrities who have gained international fame, exemplifying the national principles of glory, excellence and distinction.

They join a string of Malaysian luminaries who have earned accolades in their field and named as achievers in the Malaysia Book of Records (MBR).

Last night, the MBR added to its list a posthumous award to the late Tun Ghafar Baba for being the longest-serving MP and the late Tan Sri Dr P. Ramlee for being the most versatile artiste.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Effendi Norwawi presented the awards, on behalf of Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, at the MBR 10th Anniversary Edition and Awards Night 2006 here.

In his speech, read out by Effendi, the Prime Minister called on Malaysians to start breaking international records in science, education

and business.

Abdullah said Malaysians must equip themselves to face the future with confidence and the belief that they were no lesser individuals than others.

"I hope you will continue to break records not just nationally but internationally, the sky is the limit," he said.

"For all Malaysians here today, the record-holders should inspire you to seize the day, to dream and to achieve. Turn your thoughts and ideas into record-breaking reality.

"Malaysians should focus on quality, world-class achievements which would add value to our society, enrich our culture, strengthen the moral fibre and provide strong role models for young Malaysians."

He cited squash champion Nicol Ann David, Mercy Malaysia president Dr Jemilah Mahmood and the Malaysia's astronaut candidates as examples of outstanding world-class characters.