

# 59 firms eye PM's Hibiscus Award

NOT- 27/3/2007

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Fifty-nine companies are vying for the Prime Minister's Hibiscus Award, the premier environmental award for businesses.

Thirty-six large enterprises and 23 small- and medium-sized enterprises have signed up for the competition, which judges companies on their environmental management practices.

Organising committee chairman Datuk Kok Wee Kiat said the competition honoured businesses for their commitment to protecting the environment and their corporate social responsibility.

Winners are allowed to use Hibiscus Award logo (a green hibiscus) on their products for publicity purposes.

The competition is jointly organised by Business Council for Sustainable Development, Environmental Management and Research Association, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers and Malaysian In-

ternational Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

It was introduced 11 years ago as the Hibiscus Award. It was renamed the Prime Minister's Hibiscus Award in 1998.

Kok said corporate sponsorship had been encouraging, but he would like to see more state governments getting involved. So far, only the Pahang and Terengganu governments have agreed to sponsor state awards.

The first stage of the assessment was completed two weeks ago. The assessors evaluated the companies' written submissions on their environmental practices. They will visit the short-listed companies to verify their claims.

There are three categories — Notable Achievement in Environmental Performance, Exceptional Achievement in Environmental Performance and Excellent Achievement in Environmental Performance.