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A chance at Olympic glory

Jamaica offers to share sports expertise with Malaysia

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NASSAU: Malaysia's desire to produce Olympic champions is being given a push with Jamaica's offer to share its expertise in sports excellence.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the matter was raised during talks with Jamaican Education Minister Reverend Ronald Thwaites here on Tuesday.

"We welcome this offer as, despite being a small Caribbean nation, Jamaica has produced notable Olympic champions like sprinter Usain Bolt and others in athletics, for example," he said after the bilateral meeting that was held on the sidelines of the 19th Conference of the Commonwealth Education Ministers (19CCEM).

Malaysia was keen to learn more about the sports education system in Jamaican schools, said Muhyiddin, who is also the Education Minister.

He later attended the opening of the conference at the Atlantis Resort's Conference Centre on Paradise Island here.

He said measures taken by the Education Ministry to nurture young athletes would eventually prove to be advantageous to the Youth and Sports Ministry.

Muhyiddin said the Jamaican minister had expressed interest to forge links with Malaysia in fields such as higher education, technical



Friendly gesture: Muhyiddin presenting a gift to Thwaites after the bilateral meeting in Nassau, Bahamas. — Bernama

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Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin

by officials before we can sign the co-operation agreement," Muhyiddin said, adding that the private sector should be involved in trade and investment activities involving both sides.

Among the sectors to be explored are infrastructure like ports, airports and roads, and tourism and the hospitality industry.

Muhyiddin said Malaysia was ready to provide courses and training sessions for Bahamian officials under the Malaysia Technical Co-operation Programme.

He also held a bilateral meeting with Bahamian Education, Science and Technology Minister Jerome Fitzgerald, during which they discussed areas of possible co-operation.

and vocational education and training (TVET) as well as science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programmes.

"They are also keen to have a closer look at how we implement information and communications technology (ICT) programmes in

our schools," he added.

In talks with his Bahamian counterpart Philip E. Brave Davis, Muhyiddin said he suggested the setting up of a more formal framework for bilateral relations in economy and trade.

"This matter will be looked into