



Easy does it: The students warming up before getting on their bikes.

Cycling for a mission

Students pedal forth for education programme

By Y.P.SIVAM

metrospt@thestar.com.my

Photos by BRIAN MOH

IT WAS a new experience for athlete K. Ganthimathi and karate exponent M. Yokanathini during the Cycle to Class programme, organised by Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication (FMLC), at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in Serdang recently.

The duo were among the 100 odd students from the faculty given the responsibility to organise the event as part of the studies. Both are pursuing a degree at UPM.

For Ganthimathi, a long and middle distance

runner, it was a new experience but an interesting one. She had invited the cyclists from the national squad to the programme.

"As it was part of our studies, they were happy to cycle with us," said Ganthimathi.

Yokanathini was given the responsibility to promote the event.

"It was an interesting task and we were able to get positive response from everyone. We are happy see the event become a success. It was due to support from all quarters. The students were committed towards this programme," said Yokanathini.

FMLC Dean Associate professor Dr Abdul Mua'ti Ahmad Zamri said the programme was part of their studies.



Doing it together: Dr Abdul Mua'ti (left) launching the programme with Associate Professor Dr Arba'ie Sujud (centre) and Mohamad Zamzuri Zuki.



Moral support: The students joined by cyclists from the national squad in the Cycle To Class programme.

"The students were required to practise what they had learnt. The programme provided the students the opportunity to meet people, seek sponsorship and conduct the event in an orderly manner.

"We had also given strict instructions to the student that they should not use their own finance. Instead they must secure sponsorship from outside. They managed to get Ayam A1, Air Asia, Milo and 100 Plus to be part of the

programme.

"We know the students had put in a lot of effort to make the event a success," said Dr Abdul Mua'ti.

Ayam A1 marketing manager James Ng said they were pleased to contribute to the programme.

"The students showed a lot enthusiasm. We were also happy with their presentation. As the programme was part of their education

programme, we decided to support them.

We hope to see the students getting excellent marks," said James.

The students also handed over memorandum to the UPM.

Programme director Mohamad Zamzuri Zuki said they had listed 10 points for consideration.

"Basically the requests was to make cycling an activity in the UPM. In other words, we



Relaxing: Cyclists from the national squad chilling before the event.



In high gear:

Yokananthini (second from left) and the other students getting ready for the programme.

UPM to make cycling facilities and opportunities available in UPM. The UPM administration were receptive to our requests," said Mohamad Zamzuri.