



There's still hope:

Malaysia will be banking on Pandelega Rinong to deliver an individual medal from the Asian Games in August.

— AFP

Medal hope springs eternal

Malaysia can bank on Pandelega to provide individual glitter at Asiad

By LIM TEIK HUAT

PETALING JAYA: There is hope for Pandelega Rinong to bring home an individual medal from the Indonesian Asian Games in August if her performance at the Diving World Series in Montreal is of any indication.

Pandelega missed out on a medal in the women's 10m platform individual in the third leg on Saturday.

She finished strongly in her campaign, scoring 81.60 in her fifth and final dive for a total of 343.15 points.

That, however, was not enough to put her on the podium as Canadian Meaghan Benfeito, the last diver to jump, managed 76.80 to snatch the bronze with 354.65 points.

RESULTS

All finals

Men's 3m springboard: 1. Cao Yuan (Chn) 531.20, 2. Xie Siyi (Chn) 529.30, 3. Ilya Zakharov (Rus) 505.05.

Women's 10m platform: 1. Ren Qian (Chn) 395.85, 2. Si Yajie (Chn) 377.65, 3. Meaghan Benfeito (Can) 354.65. Selected: 4. Pandelega Rinong (Mas) 343.15.

Mixed 10m platform synchro: 1. Meaghan Benfeito-Nathan Murray (Can) 322.08, 2. Kim Mi-hwa-Myong Hyong-il (Prk) 320.58, 3. Iuliia Timoshinina-Nikita Sheikler (Rus) 299.82.

Reigning Olympic champion Ren Qian claimed the gold with 395.85 points, ahead of her Chinese teammate Si Yajie who finished with 377.65.

Pandelega should be heartened that she finished ahead of North Korean Kim Mi-rae, who placed fifth with 339.90 points.

Malaysia's Cheong Jun Hoong

also made the final but finished sixth with 298.70 points.

Pandelega made the final after placing third in the first semi-final group (339.85).

Jun Hoong also made the cut by taking third spot in the second semi-final group (340.20).

Pandelega-Jun Hoong made history by becoming the first Malaysian divers to triumph in the series after winning the 10m platform synchro title on Friday.

Diving coach Zhang Yukun sees Pandelega as a medal prospect in the individual event as well.

"Pandelega-Jun Hoong have been very consistent this year and should get a medal in the 10m platform synchro event but I hope they'll

SUPER LEAGUE

RESULT & STANDINGS

PERAK	3	KUALA LUMPUR	0				
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
JDT	7	6	0	1	14	3	18
PAHANG	7	4	2	1	14	4	14
PERAK	7	4	1	2	13	7	13
T'GANU	7	3	3	1	13	7	12
PKNS	7	3	2	2	10	10	11
KEDAH	7	3	1	3	15	13	10
MELAKA	7	3	0	4	8	13	9
SELANGOR	7	3	0	4	10	16	9
PKNP	7	2	1	4	5	10	7
K. LUMPUR	7	2	1	4	8	14	7
KELANTAN	7	1	2	4	7	12	5
N.SEMBILAN	7	1	1	5	5	13	4

PREMIER LEAGUE

FIXTURE AND STANDINGS

> TODAY

POLICE vs TERENGGANU

(Shah Alam Stadium, 9pm)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FELDA	8	6	2	0	22	8	20
FELCRA	9	4	5	0	15	10	17
SABAH	9	3	4	2	16	10	13
SARAWAK	8	3	2	3	13	13	11
POLICE	8	3	2	3	11	14	11
UITM	8	3	2	3	14	18	11
MISC-MIFA	8	2	4	2	13	10	10
PENANG	8	3	1	4	8	12	10
T'GANU II	8	2	2	4	7	13	8
UKM	8	2	1	5	12	15	7
JDT	8	0	3	5	6	14	3

shine in the individual also," said Yukun.

"We'll not change their dive difficulties as there's no time.

"China will be hard to beat but the North Koreans will be the main threat to Pandelega in the individual.

"The 2015 world champion from North Korea (Kim Kuk-hyang) failed to qualify for the final but she will be ready to fight back in the Asian Games," he said.

Pandelega took bronze in the individual event in her Asian Games debut in Guangzhou in 2010.

However, Pandelega only finished seventh in her pet event in the 2014 edition in Incheon, South Korea.