

No fear of nosedive

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Jun Hoong won't defend world title but not all's bleak

By JOASH EE DE SILVA

KUALA LUMPUR: Diver Cheong Jun Hoong will not be defending her 10m platform individual title at the World Aquatics Championships in Gwangju, South Korea, from July 12-28.

The 29-year-old is still on the mend after undergoing surgery on her right knee in August.

But the good news is, according to Amateur Swimming Union of Malaysia (Asum) secretary Mae Chen, the diver is now back in training.

"Her recovery is going very well and there shouldn't be any more issues with her knee. She is now doing some light training," said Mae at the National Sports Council in Bukit Jalil here yesterday.

"We'll try to get her back in action

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Mae Chen

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before the Diving World Cup in Tokyo in April next year which is before the Olympics.

"Towards the end of the year, if she feels better then we will send her for some Grand Prix competitions in Australia, Singapore and



Back in action: Cheong Jun Hoong is now doing some light training after undergoing knee surgery in August last year.

here in Malaysia to prepare her for the World Cup."

Meanwhile, Pandelega Rinong, who will skip the Diving World Series in Kazan, Russia, this weekend, will make the trip to Gwangju.

"She has a bit of a twitch in her lower back which is why she stayed

back," said Mae.

"We want her to focus on the World Championships which is more important. She'll be fine then."

Leong Mun Yee, Wendy Ng, Nur Dhabitah Sabri and Kimberly Bong will also be flying to Gwangju.

The men will be represented by Jellson Jabillin, Chew Yiwei, Muhd Syafiq Puteh, Hanis Nazirul Jaya Surya and Ooi Tze Liang.

The divers will undergo a training camp in Wuhan, China in June before departing for the world meet.