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September 12, 2011 16:35 PM

### Safee, Safiq's Offer From EPL Clubs Reflect The Country's Success In Football - Razali

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 12 (Bernama) -- The selection of national skipper Safiq Rahim and striker Safee Sali to play in the English Premier League (EPL) reflects the country's success in football said Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Razali Ibrahim.

The success of the two players would certainly inspire young players, he said.

"In any sport, one of the main requirement is to have a hero...a role model to look up to. For example, cycling ace Mohd Azizulhasni Awang.

"Shahin Zulkifli has been able to transform the image of 'bowling alley from a place for a selected few to a venue for healthy family activities while shutter Datuk Lee Chong Wei has hoisted the image of badminton globally.

"Similarly in football, we had a role model in Datuk Mokhtar Dahari but we have been waiting long for someone like him to come around," he told reporters at Institut Tadrisan Awam Negara (INTAN) here today when commenting on the offer for trials by Cardiff City from England.

Safee is expected to start trials with the club from today to Sept 27, while Safiq is due to start two weeks later.

Both players had also received a similar offer from another Malaysian owned EPL club, Queens Park Rangers, headed by Tan Sri Tony Fernandes.

Razali hoped both the Harimau Malaya mainstays would use the opportunity presented to them and fulfill their responsibilities and obligations to make the country proud.

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