

1,464 students in preliminary round of ComQuiz

PETALING JAYA: A total of 1,464 students here and in Ipoh took part in the preliminary round of the ComQuiz 2002, which is jointly organised by *The Star* and Inti College.

Before 10am, participants started to pack the registration counter at Inti College in Subang Jaya and at SMJK Yuk Choy in Ipoh for the one-and-a-half-hour contest that began at 11am yesterday.

SM Sains Selangor Form Four student Mohd Azian Jamri said he was not very confident as it was his first time taking part in ComQuiz but he was grateful that he could participate in it.

"I am a computer enthusiast and taking part in competitions like ComQuiz will enable me to gain more computer knowledge," said Mohd Azian, who has been reading books, forming discussion groups with team members and surfing the Internet to prepare for the quiz.

Form Four student Yap Jing Hau of SMJK Yu Hua, Kajang, said he read about the quiz from *The Star* and asked his friends to join.

Yap's Mathematics teacher



KEEN INTEREST ... some of the 150 students from 19 schools in Perak registering before taking part in the preliminary round of ComQuiz 2002 organised by *The Star* and Inti College at the SMJK Yuk Choy, Ipoh, yesterday.

Chong Tat Keong said the school entered only one team but hoped that it would encourage other students to cultivate an interest in computers.

Only four teams will emerge from a total of 488 teams from 175 schools nationwide in this 12th competition to enter the final round, which will be held at Inti International College in Penang on Aug 17, and a total of 16 top scholars will also be selected from each state.

The annual competition, open to Form Three, Four and Five students, is aimed at encouraging students to be more information technology savvy and preparing them for future IT-based working life.

Prizes for the winning teams include a challenge trophy, personal computers, printers, scanners and learning aid kits while the team members will receive a plaque, Inti College scholarships and books.

Main sponsors for the quiz are SNP Eastview Publications Sdn Bhd, Universal Fitness and Leisure Sdn Bhd and Dell Malaysia with support from TMTOUCH, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Sdn Bhd and Quaker Products (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd.

In Ipoh, 150 students from 19 schools took part in the preliminary round of the competition.

Science student Hoo

Cheong Tong, 18, from SMJK Nan Hwa, Sitiawan, said he wanted to try his luck in the ComQuiz after his teachers encouraged him and his fellow computer club members to take part.

"I found that the questions were not that difficult and I hope our team will have a good chance of making it to the final," said Hoo.

Fifth former Ahmad Nazem, 17, of SMK Tunku Abdul Rahman, said he jumped at the chance to take part in the ComQuiz after hearing about it.

However, he found the questions a little tricky but still had hopes that his team would make it for the final.