

# Media: The Star

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## Andre won't rest until he breaks national triple jump record this year

By K.M. BOOPATHY

**PETALING JAYA:** Andre Anura Anuar wants to jump farther this year as he seeks to obliterate the national triple jump mark held by Mohd Hakimi Ismail since 2017.

A heel injury prevented Andre, fondly known as AAA, from achieving the target at the Cambodia SEA Games last month but the Sabahan won't give up.

Despite the injury, Andre managed to defend his gold in Cambodia but the winning distance of 16.06m was a far cry from his personal best of 16.51.

Hakimi's national record of 16.77, set at the 2017 Kuala Lumpur SEA Games, has been the benchmark Andre has been chasing and he has two more big events this year – the Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok (July 12-16) and the Hangzhou Asian Games (Sept 23-Oct 8) – achieve his goal.

"Hakimi has been the flagbearer in triple jump for us in the past and I always look up to him. As for me, I have been trying to beat my personal best and also target Hakimi's national record but failed in my first attempt at the SEA Games," said Andre during his nutritional sponsors Ajinomoto Malaysia (Bhd) appreciation ceremony for the success at the SEA Games held in Bandar Enstek yesterday.

"The heel injury prevent me from recording a better distance but I will keep trying to overcome my personal best as well as the national record.

"I have recovered and will be going to Germany in another 10 days for training and also compete in domestic meets there. I will be there for about three weeks.

"It will be the preparation for the Asian Championships and that's where I will get a good chance of registering better jumps with the competition I will be facing.

"If I do not make it, the next target is the Asian Games and I will be pushing hard to achieve my goals."

Andre is not the only athlete under the Ajinomoto's Asean Victory Project, where selected athletes are catered with the food manufacturers' sports nutrition programme called the 'Winning Meals Kachimeshi'.

Nor Sarah Adi and Queenie Ting, who won the women's pole vault and discus silver medals respectively in Phnom Penh, are also part of the programme.

Ajinomoto plays the role of educating and providing balance diet for Andre, Sarah and Queenie and the trio also benefit from another product, the aminoVital, which is formulated with branched chain amino acids to improve athletes' performance, strengthen muscle endurance, help in muscle recovery, and reduce muscle fatigues.



**Food for champs:** (From left) Pole vaulter Nor Sarah Adi, triple jumper Andre Anura Anuar and discus thrower Queenie Ting were feasted by their sports nutrition sponsors Ajinomoto Malaysia Bhd in Bandar Enstek yesterday.

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