Ing Yueh bursting with confidence that she will make the cut for Olympics

By T. AVINESHWARAN

PETALING JAYA: National artistic gymnast Tan Ing Yueh (pic) is Malaysia’s best hope to qualify for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

Ing Yueh, Farah Ann Abdul Hadi and Tracie Ang have been named for the last Olympic qualifier tournament – the World Championships in Stuttgart from Oct 4-15 – but the 23-year-old Ing Yueh looks to be in the best form to make the trip to Tokyo.

She emerged as the individual all-around champion in the recently National Championships by amassing 52.250 points. She came out tops in all the four apparatus – vault (13.00), uneven bars (12.550), balance beam (13.400) and floor exercise (13.300).

The plucky lass hopes to raise the bar in Stuttgart as the standard of competition would be higher.

“The national championship was a good warm-up before the world meet. I hope to maintain the form,” said the communications student from Sunway University.

“I always get nervous before any competition, but it all disappears when I get into action. I’m confident of hitting more than 52.250 points.

“In order to qualify for the Olympics, I need to hit more than 52.000 points. The top 20 in the individual all-around get to qualify for the Games and I’m confident of making the cut.”

Although focused on her gymnastics career, Ing Yueh said she had not neglected her studies.

“I’ve double training sessions five days a week and classes during weekdays, but I can balance it,” she said.

“I want to get a degree and I want to be in the Olympics for the first time. I’m at my peak age, and this is the best time to do it.

This year, Ing Yueh won silver (floor exercise) and bronze (vault) at the World Challenge Cup in China. She also bagged two silvers at the Stella Zakharova Cup in Ukraine.

Her coach Ng Shu Wai believes Ing Yueh has what it takes to go to the Olympics on merit.

“She is continuously improving. She has taken part in four international tournaments and has won three silvers and a bronze this year. We believe she can hit over 52.000 points in Stuttgart.”