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SINCERITY WINS THE DAY FOR MALAYSIA IN C'WEALTH GAMES BID, SAYS DR M
Commonwealth - Mahathir

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KUALA LUMPUR, July 22 (Bernama) -- The selection of Kuala Lumpur to
host the 1998 Commonwealth Games shows that Commonwealth countries voted
for sincerity rather than the offer of money, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr
Mahathir Mohamad said today.

+I am very happy that, in the end the tactics of using money to seek
support failed; the delegates gave priority to sincerity, + he told
reporters after a meeting with the Batu Division Umno Youth at Parliament
House here.

Dr Mahathir said the Commonwealth countries had decided to allow
developing countries to host the Games and the criteria of picking rich
countries which could foot the air fare no longer held:

+I extend my congratulations to the Olympic Committee and Youth and
Sports Minister Senator Annuar Musa, and to the Commonwealth delegates who
voted for Malaysia by upholding the principle of not being swayed by the
offers, + he said.

Dr Mahathir said he was convinced that Malaysia would be able to
provide adequate facilities for the 1998 Games, -- more

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Attn editors : second para of item slugged Commonwealth-Mahathir.2
should read +Malaysia has obtained a \$50-million assistance from the Tote'
Board to build a 100,000-capacity stadium, + he added.

Herewith corrected rptn

Commonwealth-Mahathir 2 Kuala Lumpur

+We have six years to get ready, we have already identified what has to
be done, including putting up the games village, hotels and stadiums, + he
said.

+Malaysia has obtained a \$50-million assistance from the Tote Board to
build a 100,000-capacity stadium, + he added.

Malaysia made history when Kuala Lumpur was picked to host the 1998
Commonwealth Games at the meeting of the Commonwealth Games Federation
(CGF) in Barcelona yesterday. Kuala Lumpur won 40 votes to 25 against
Adelaide.

This is the second time in the Games' history that a country other than
Australia, Britain, Canada and New Zealand has been selected to host the
Games. Kingston, the capital of Jamaica, played host in 1966.

The competition between Kuala Lumpur and Adelaide became intense at the
11th hour when Adelaide offered additional air tickets for athletes to the
Games to countries particularly in Africa. -- more

▼22/07/22-38MST

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Commonwealth - Mahathir 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

On his meeting for about an hour with the Batu Division Umno Youth, Dr Mahathir said he had wanted to know the problem they faced..

He said he would help resolve the issue of the no-confidence vote : passed by the Batu Division Umno Youth against Deputy National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Alex. Lee, who is the MP for **Batu**.

A spokesman for the Batu Division Umno Youth said Dr Mahathir, who is Umno President and Barisan Nasional Chairman, was informed of the dissatisfaction of the division's members over Lee's handling of his duties as the elected representative for the **constituency**.

The spokesman claimed that Lee gave priority to residents' associations, rukun tetangga sectors and voluntary organisations in allocating funds but neglected Umno.

He said the movement would not withdraw the **no-confidence** vote unless there was endorsement from Umno Youth Malaysia and Batu Umno Division chairman Senator Azman Atar who, he claimed, supported them in the matter.

He also said that, the Batu Division Umno Youth supported the plan to develop Jalan Petaling as a tourist attraction housing petty traders from all communities. However, it did not want Lee to be coordinator of the project but the Datuk Bandar, Tan Sri Elyas Omar. -- Bernama

▼22/07/21-12MST