

11 MAY 1997

Shooting

37 COMMONWEALTH NATIONS FOR LACOS

LANGKAWI, May 11 (Bernama) -- Some 37 countries have confirmed their participation in the Second Commonwealth Nations Shooting Championships (Lacos 1997) to be held at the shooting range here from Nov 17 to 29.

Organising committee chairman Abdul Rahman Ariffin said the confirmations, including defending champion Australia, were received through the Commonwealth Shooting Federation based in London.

More countries are expected to confirm their participation in the biennial tournament before the closing date of July 30, he added.

Speaking to reporters after chairing a meeting of the main organising committee here today, Abdul Rahman said the championship would be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and closed by Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid.

Sponsored by the state government and Galantpac Holdings Sdn Bhd, the RM2 million championship will showcase 15 events in the trap, skeet, small bore, free rifle prone, air rifle and free pistol categories.

Abdul Rahman said Langkawi was chosen not only because it has excellent facilities but also because the state-of-the-art shooting range at Gunung Raya currently under construction is the venue for shooting events in the 1998 Commonwealth Games.

He hoped the Malaysian team would bring back more than the single gold medal it won in New Delhi two years ago. -- BERNAMA

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