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Everything will be in it's place

EVERYTHING is in place and Malaysia are confident that next month's Commonwealth Games will run smoothly.

Contingency plans are in place for everything, and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin yesterday said everything will run like clockwork.

"The organisers have laid their plans and there is no way the Games will be extended," said Muhyiddin after receiving his Commonwealth Games accreditation card from Kodak in Sungai Besi, Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

"There may be some postponements but that is a normal thing that happens all the time in major meets."

Muhyiddin was also presented with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali's accreditation cards.

The Games are on Sept 11-21 and there are fears that the La Nina phenomenon will create havoc in cycling, athletics and several other outdoor events.

Meanwhile, Sukom '98 chairman Jen (R) Tan Sri Hashim Mohamed Ali said the delay in receiving entries would not jeopardise the running of the Games.

As of yesterday, 52 of the 70 countries who have confirmed participation have submitted their entries to Sukom.

India, said Hashim, have informed Sukom that their cricket list will be submitted by the first week of September while Canada have said they will be slightly late in submitting their cycling team list.

As for Nigeria's wish to participate in the Games, Hashim said it is not possible as they are still suspended by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF).

Their intention of sending observers will have to come through their Olympic Committee and an application has to be made to the Olympic Council of Malaysia and CGF.

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