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Fennel: Congrats on the `best ever`

Jugjet Singh

COMMONWEALTH Games Federation chairman Michael Fennell has congratulated Malaysia for organising `the best ever` Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in September.

In a letter addressed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he congratulated the Malaysian Government for its achievement in hosting the '98 Games.

"The 16th Commonwealth Games are now history, but will be remembered as the best ever, not only by those who were present in Kuala Lumpur but also by the millions who viewed the Games on television," wrote Fennel.

"This was due in great measure to the unstinting support of the Malaysian Government through difficult economic times, but also to your (Mahathir) own enthusiastic and personal direction.

"I am therefore writing on behalf of the CGF to send a message of thanks and congratulations both to the Malaysian Government and personally to yourself for the extraordinary achievement in the presentation of the Games."

Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who released the letter at a Press conference yesterday, said he was pleased with Fennell's open admiration of Malaysia's commitment and said a committee has been formed to lobby for the 2006 Asian Games.

"The committee will start lobbying during next month's Bangkok Games. We have received the go-ahead from the Olympic Council of Asia to set up a hospitality booth at the Imperial Hotel in Bangkok, which is the official Games hotel," Muhyiddin said.

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