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ITM campus the Games Village

THE main campus of the Mara Institute of Technology (ITM) in Shah Alam will serve as the Games Village for the 7th Malaysia Games to be held in Shah Alam on April 27-17.

All the 24 sports, except yachting which will be held at Tanjung Harapan, Port Kelang, will be held at venues around the Games Village.

"We selected the ITM campus in Shah Alam as the Games Village to save cost," said Datin Paduka Rakibah Abdul Manap, Selangor Women's Development and Infrastructure committee chairman, in Kuantan yesterday.

"These are some of the measures taken by the State Government to ensure that the quality of the Games is not affected even though the cost of organising the Games has been reduced."

The Selangor Government reduced the original RM20 million organising cost to below RM10 million.

Rakibah said the allocation for the technical aspects of the Games has been slashed to RM500,000 from the original RM1.8 million while the allowances of officials have been reduced considerably.

The format of certain sports had been changed and the number of competitors reduced in an effort to further cut costs.

According to Rabiah, 16 teams have confirmed their participation while a reply from Brunei is pending.

She said more than 1,000 volunteers, including ITM undergraduates, students and volunteers from sports organisations in the Klang Valley, will be deployed to ensure the smooth running of the Games.

The Raja Muda of Selangor will open the Games at the Shah Alam Stadium on April 18 while the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will officiate at the closing ceremony on April 27.

There will be a total of 24 sports with 210 gold, 210 silver and 302 bronze medals at stake.

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