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Games-rehearsal

ONLY SELECTED GROUPS ALLOWED FOR FINAL REHEARSAL

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 28 (Bernama) -- The full-dress rehearsal of the opening ceremony of the 16th Commonwealth Games on Sept 9 at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil here is not open to the public, said Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin here today.

However, only selected groups, including people directly involved in the Games, would be allowed to have a preview of the opening ceremony which will be witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Muhyiddin said family members of the Games' volunteers, people involved in the show and other dedicated groups would be given a pass each to watch the rehearsal.

"The media would also be allowed to come for the rehearsal but are prohibited from taking photographs or recording the event on video camera," Muhyiddin told reporters after opening the Games Village at Bukit Jalil here.

He said about 90,000 passes would be issued for the rehearsal.

"I am giving a reminder that the full-dress rehearsal is not for the public. We cannot open the rehearsal to the public because the demand would be great," he said.

On the idea to confine the final rehearsal to a select group of people, Muhyiddin said the opening ceremony on Sept 11 would have several elements of surprises and the general public should not miss the "once in a lifetime event at their door-step."

Tickets for the five-and-a-half-hour opening ceremony on Sept 11 are priced between RM30 and RM450 each.

The Games are scheduled from Sept 11 to 21.

-- BERNAMA

DC DSR