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Games-tickets

PRIME MINISTER HAPPY WITH TICKET SALES

By: Mohd Shukri Ishak

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 16 (Bernama) -- Although there are still 26 days left before the Kuala Lumpur '98 Games, the sale of tickets for the events is picking up to meet the target.

Sukom Ninety Eight Berhad (Sukom) executive chairman Jen (Rtd) Tan Sri Mohd Hashim Ali said as of yesterday 290,000 tickets worth RM15 million had been sold.

"We are confident the sales target of 500,000 tickets for the Games will be a reality," he said after a "Gotong-Royong" Campaign in conjunction with the Commonwealth Games at the National Stadium at Bukit Jalil here today.

Hashim said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had been informed about the sale yesterday and he (Mahathir) was very happy with the development.

"Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin informed the Prime Minister yesterday and the Prime Minister was clearly very happy with the development," he said.

"Tickets for the opening ceremony priced at RM80 which was initially felt difficult to sell are now almost sold out," he said.

On the list of athletes from the 70 countries participating in the Games, Hashim said as of yesterday 52 countries had submitted their respective list of athletes.

"Only 18 countries have not submitted their list and we will release the names of the athletes as soon as possible for the convenience of the media and others," he said.

Commenting on the delay in submitting the names by the countries concerned, he said: "It's not a major problem, it is only that we have to reprint the list but we hope the countries concerned would submit the list immediately."

The "gotong-royong" campaign, officiated by Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Abu Hassan Omar, was participated by about 1,000 people.

-- BERNAMA

MS ZAB