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Steps taken to ensure adequate transport

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Pre-emptive measures are being taken to ensure public transport services are adequate during the Commonwealth Games which begin next Friday.

Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said today a minimum of 50 airport taxis of the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang, would be deployed from Friday.

These taxis will provide back-up assistance to the fleet of 800 airport limousines currently servicing the new Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang.

"This is to ensure that passengers will not be left waiting in line for longer than the usual maximum period of five minutes," he said.

The Kuala Lumpur City Bus service plying between the Jalan Duta bus station and KLIA will also have an additional two buses on standby "at any one time".

Mustapa expressed satisfaction with the service which takes off every 15 minutes, announcing that the passenger volume comprising tourists, in particular, had increased.

In addition, several enforcement officers of the ministry would be stationed at the airport's arrival hall, to provide assistance to tourists and Games participants.

Accordingly, KLCB Sdn Bhd and Airport Limo Sdn Bhd have been directed to deploy additional staff at the airport.

Mustapa said these directives were given to the heads and drivers of all public transport companies last Wednesday.

Three courses for taxi drivers have also been held, to instruct them on the various Games venues and tips on providing excellent service to the public.

Some 15 per cent or 3,300 of the 22,000 bus and taxi drivers are expected to service commuters during the Games.

Speaking to reporters at a post-Cabinet Press conference today, he also announced a three kilometre 'Duta Run', for all public transport staff particularly drivers, this Sunday at the Jalan Duta bus terminal.

To be flagged off by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at 7am, the run is expected to attract some 1,500 participants.

"Besides promoting the Games, the run is also aimed at inspiring all public transport staff to provide the best service to ensure that the 'National Agenda' of successfully hosting the Commonwealth Games is fulfilled," said Mustapa.

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