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Games-Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS URGE PM TO COME UP WITH A STATEMENT ON LEAVE

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 5 (Bernama) -- Nadi '98 volunteers today urged Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to come up with a statement compelling the private sectors to grant leave to the affected workers during the 16th Commonwealth Games here from Sept 11 to 21.

Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today agreed with the suggestion by the volunteers and would inform the Prime Minister about it as soon as possible.

"I am looking at the problem seriously because the volunteers are among the main component in ensuring the success of the Commonwealth Games...I will inform the Prime Minister about it," he said when attending a briefing with leaders of the Nadi '98 volunteers at the National Aquatic Centre in Bukit Jalil, here.

According to Muhyiddin, his ministry was seriously looking at the leave problem faced by the volunteers which should have been resolved much earlier.

He said Sukom Ninety Eight Berhad (Sukom) would get in touch with the employers who had not confirmed the leave for volunteers so that the matter could be resolved.

"I hope the problem will be resolved immediately so that it will not affect the functions of the volunteers during the Games.

"I urge the volunteers affected by the problem to inform us so that necessary action can be taken by Sukom," he added.

Some 16,000 volunteers had been selected to assist the nation in achieving its aspiration to become the best host for the Commonwealth games.

Meanwhile Sukom executive chairman Tan Sri Hashim Mohd Ali said all volunteers would receive free tickets for the Light Rail Transit (LRT) system and commuter train services.

"I have held discussions with the LRT and Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB) managements on the matter and they have agreed to provide free service to the volunteers for 14 days beginning Sept 9," he said.

-- BERNAMA

ZMA AO