

03/06/2000

Prime Minister to close the Games

S. Shankar

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will close the 8th Malaysia Games at the 40,000-seater State Stadium in Batu Kawan tonight.

The closing, which starts at 7.45pm, is expected to be a glittering and enthralling celebration complete with cannon shots and fireworks though the organisers say the whole ceremony will be a relaxed and leisurely affair.

Spectators will see the marchpast by the 19 contingents and they will be treated to a Mutiara Pusaka dance performance by pupils from five secondary schools, a live concert by local artistes, award presentation to the best male and female athletes and overall champions.

The Games torch will be extinguished and the Games flag will be brought down and handed over to the next host of the next games - Sabah.

Organisers are anticipating 20,000 cars, 10,000 motorcycles and 130 buses to bring the athletes, officials, organising personnel and spectators to the stadium.

"We have taken steps to ensure that the traffic congestion at opening ceremony will not recur at the closing," said Penang State Secretary Datuk Khalid Ramli yesterday.

For those travelling by public transport, the State's Transit Link and Seberang Perai's Cityliner bus companies will provide shuttle services to the stadium from various stations from 3.0pm till 6.0pm.

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