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SEA-Tunku Imran

ATHLETES NEED TO FOCUS ON THEIR EVENTS, SAYS OCM CHIEF

By: Leslean Arshad

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Bernama) -- With the SEA Games three days away, Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) president, Tunku Tan Sri Imran Tuanku Ja'afar reminded all national athletes to strongly focus in their events and put aside any worries.

Considering that athletes had gone through a long training stint, he said, they should be mentally and physically fit to do battle.

"I sincerely hope most of them are prepared. Those who are not focus, now need to really put in an effort to stay focus," he said when met after the signing ceremony between OCM and Bangkok-based Advance Agro Public Company Ltd.

Advance Agro, the official paper provider for this SEA Games, is supplying A4 paper under "Double A" brandname to the main press centre, and the Games secretariat.

In echoing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's advice to the national athletes yesterday to think about winning and focus on the event, Tunku Imran said this would be the best way to excel and stay in contention in one's event.

He said that the stiff competition ahead would be the ultimate test of one's determination, effort and ability following months of training under the watchful eyes of their coaches.

Malaysia has set a target of 80 golds in this competition which starts on Sept 8-17.

Malaysia won 57 gold medals to finish overall second behind Thailand in the last competition held in Brunei.

Tunku Imran urged national athletes to give off their best as they would have a strong backing from the home crowd.

"I expect our athletes to rise to the occasion and give their home crowd something to cheer about," he said. -- BERNAMA

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