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HISHAMMUDDIN SATISFIED WITH SEA GAMES PREPARATIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 13 (Bernama) -- Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein is satisfied with the preparations made for the 21st SEA Games in September here.

To ensure that there will be no hitch on the big day, he wants every association involved to submit their reports to him.

"Everything is going according to schedule...there's nothing to worry," he told reporters after chairing a meeting of the 21st SEA Games Board of Directors, at the ministry here.

Hishammuddin said works to upgrade sports facilities would be carried out at 14 of the 40 venues for events such as tennis, water polo, bowling, weightlifting, yacht, shooting and table tennis.

He said the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah was expected to officiate the games on Sept 8 while Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would officiate the closing on Sept 17, both at the Bukit Jalil National Stadium.

He said the torch run would begin on March 10 after the Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) President Tunku Tan Sri Imran Tuanku Ja'afar received the torch from Olympic Council of Brunei President Pengiran Bendahara Sufri Bolkiah in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei.

The torch would then be brought to Labuan. Four companies, namely Petronas, Tenaga Nasional, Proton and Telekom are the major partners in sports for the SEA Games, contributing RM3.8 million each. The official sponsor would contribute RM1.9 million while official supplier, RM200,000.

--BERNAMA

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