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Venues handed over to Games organisers

Jaswinder Kaur

VENUES for the ninth Malaysia Games are ready and have been handed over to the Sabah Government, Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said yesterday.

The Chief Minister confirmed that a total of RM123 million was spent on constructing the venues and putting infrastructure in place in order to make the Games a success. Entrance to all venues is free.

"We are ready to host the Games. Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Sakaran Dandai will officiate the opening ceremony at the Likas Stadium on Sept 7 while Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will close the Games on Sept 14," said Chong after chairing the final main committee meeting for the Games at the Likas Stadium.

The Malaysia Games, to be held on Sept 5-14, will see 27 events contested including judo and fencing which will be making their respective debuts.

Chong also announced the appointment of Sabah Youth and Sports Development Minister Datuk Yahya Hussin as head of the Sabah contingent for the Games.

Meanwhile, Chong said those who had complains about preparations for the Games should refrain from going to the media.

"Sometimes people may, without intention, exaggerate a problem in the Press which makes the situation worse. We hope those who are unhappy with certain things approach us in the Government, so that we can address your problems," he said.