

# Kuala Lumpur Sukma will cost only RM9mil

**PETALING JAYA:** National Sports Council (NSC) director general Datuk Seri Zolkples Embong said that the 16th edition of the Sukma (Malaysia Games) in Kuala Lumpur will be held without a big budget.

The last edition of the Sukma hosted by Pahang had a whopping RM238mil budget and Zolkples said that the KL edition will be held with a budget of around RM9mil.

"Our aim is just to provide a stage for the athletes to compete ... there is no need for lavish opening and closing ceremonies," said Zolkples at a press conference at the NSC in Bukit Jalil yesterday.

"Our budget will be smaller as we will not have to build new facilities or venues. We will also borrow equipment from the National Sports Association if needed."

The KL Sukma will host 20 sports and will be held from June 28-July 7 around the Klang Valley, and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) will be the athletes' village.

Two new sports - woodball and Muay Thai - have been included and 7,000 athletes are expected to compete in the 15-day Games.

Zolkples Embong added the deadline for Sukma registration is April 30.