



Olympic and Paralympic Games athletes, former medal winners and officials attend a press conference yesterday.

**OLYMPICS**

# Games broadcast bonanza confirmed

## Six channels, mobile apps to beam events

**TOR CHITTINAND**

Six local television channels will broadcast live the Tokyo Olympic Games next year and the Thai sports fans will also be able to follow live action via mobile platforms.

The Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) and the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) have joined hands with the private sector to ensure fans will be able to follow live action from the biennial tournament and that they will not miss out on how Thai athletes perform in Tokyo next year.

Minister of Tourism and Sports Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn yesterday presided over a press conference to announce the live broadcast. Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, a member of the International Olympic Committee, Dr Kongsak Yodmani, SAT governor and Dr Pakdee Manawech, deputy secretary general of NBTC, also attended the event.

The 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, scheduled to be held this year, was postponed by a year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Games will now be held from July 23 to Aug 8, followed by the Paralympic Games between Aug 24-Sept 5.

Six local channels — NBT (2), ThaiPBS (3), New18 (18), True4U (24), GMM TV (25) and PPTV HD (36) — will cover a large number of events

and those that involve Thai athletes participate. Fans will also be able to watch live action on T-Sports24s and mobile applications such as AIS Play and AIS Play Box.

Phiphat said the Thai government is ready to help the country's athletes participate in the Games next year. "I hope the Thai athletes will bring a good name to the country and we have also finalised arrangements for the Thai fans to enjoy the Tokyo Olympics," he added.

"It is confirmed that the Tokyo Olympic Games 2020 will happen. Japan is now moving forward with necessary measures to cope with the Covid-19 pandemic so that everyone attending the Olympic Games next year will be safe," said Patama.

"IOC president Mr Thomas Bach is also very confident that the Games will

be successful because IOC is working hard alongside the host nation.”

Eighteen Thai athletes have so far qualified for the quadrennial tournament.

They are Panipak Wongpattanakit (taekwondo), Sawek Sethaporn (skeet & trap), Kamolwan Chanyim (sailing), Siriporn Kaewduangarm (Windsurf), Juthatip Maneepan (cycling), Issaranuudom Purihiranyapat (shooting), Napatsawan Yangpaiboon (shooting), Tanyaporn Prueksakorn (shooting), Suthiya Jewchalermmitr (skeet & trap), Issarapa Eimprasertsuk (skeet & trap), Arinattha Chawatanon, Korn-tawat Sumran, Weerapat Pitakanon and Suphanat Worrakul (equestrian), Thitsan Panmod (boxing), Sudaporn Seesorndee (boxing), Baison Maneekon (boxing) and Chatchaidecha Buddee (boxing).