

Manage information efficiently, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR: Continuous efforts must be carried out to build a culture that can create a systematic and organised management of information in government agencies, said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Prime Minister said an agenda of research on government information should be planned and implemented to produce ways to enhance the effectiveness of its management of information.

"The Government is concentrating on the setting up of a sound information infrastructure in gearing the country towards dynamic and excellent development," he said when launching the Civil Service Link (CSL) yesterday.

He said the Government placed serious attention in providing information under the Malaysia Incorporated policy to help the private sector understand the functions of government agencies.

"Relevant, correct and updated information is important to ensure socio-economic growth. The private sector, as the prime mover of the economic growth, needs information to compete at the international level," he said.

"A lot of information needed by them belongs to government agencies. Statistics on macro economics and forecast and analysis on economic, social, science and technology sectors are important input that can assist these companies in their planning."

"Apart from this, information on

economy, market situation and government policies will help influence private sector activities."

Dr Mahathir said it was also necessary for the private sector to provide feedback on government services which would speed up the Government's decision-making process.

"Exchange of information is important, hence the need to create stronger co-operation in information sharing.

"Understanding the civil service will reduce confusion that can affect good relations between the public and private sector."

Dr Mahathir also said correct infor-

mation and effective communication were important pre requisites to creating an intellectual society.

Dr Mahathir described CSL as a re-engineering process by which access to government information was made easy.

He said the stress was on continuous availability of updated information on government agencies.

The "heart" of CSL is at Wisma PKNS, here, where its administration, operation and hot-line services are located. CSL was developed and implemented by the Malaysian Administration, Modernisation and Management Planning Unit.