

30 NOV 1996

MITI TO BRIEF PRIVATE SECTOR ON IMP2

PETALING JAYA, Nov 30 (Bernama) -- The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will hold a series of briefings for the private sector on just launched Second Industrial Master Plan (IMP2), its minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said here today.

The first briefing session would be conducted before the end of the year, she told reporters after opening Harley-Davidson of Malaysia Sdn Bhd's new headquarters here today.

IMP2, launched by Prime Minister Datuk Dr. Mahathir Mohamad on Nov 28, 1996, is the ambitious plan that sets the course for the growth of the manufacturing sector for the period 1996 to 2005.

MITI, the agency entrusted with producing the bold and ambitious plan, said the plan aims to deepen the nation's economic foundation and enable it to achieve global competitiveness.

It is also premised on the economy growing in excess of eight percent between 1996 and 2000 and at 7.7 percent in the second half (2001-2005), with the current account of the balance of payments expected to improve from a deficit of 8.8 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) in 1995 to a surplus of about 1.3 percent in the year 2000. -- BERNAMA

JR DVS