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PM TO LAUNCH SECOND IMP ON NOV 28

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will launch the second Industrial Master Plan (IMP), for the period 1996-2005, on Nov 28, 1996, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said in a statement today.

MITI is the lead agency in formulating the latest IMP, aimed at carrying through Malaysia's industrialisation programmes over the next 10 years and beyond with focus on high-technology and capital intensive industries.

The ministry had commissioned the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) to be the lead consultant in a study on the nation's industrial development through a cluster-based approach.

The new emphasis would inculcate both forward and backward linkages in an industry which would be complemented by well-developed local supporting industries, similar to the development that has taken place in California's Silicon Valley.

The aim, ultimately, was to develop industries which were self-supporting in all aspects, which meant that areas such as financing and educational requirements would be addressed through the cluster approach. -- BERNAMA

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