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TELEKOM WELCOMES CONTENT PROVIDERS INTO MSC

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- Telekom Malaysia Bhd, which was appointed as the sole provider of telecommunications infrastructure for Malaysia's Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), welcomed the entrance of providers of multimedia content into the MSC.

Chief executive Datuk Mohamed Said Mohamed Ali said though Telekom could provide the MSC with speedy information superhighway, its capacity to provide a voluminous content for the MSC was limited.

"We will not be able to provide all the content or even a small content," he said during a panel discussion on the last day of the Mutimedia Asia `96 conference and exhibition, here.

The panel discussion entitled "The East Asian Electronic Community" was chaired by Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Datuk Leo Moggie.

Telekom would invest RM5 billion over eight to 10 years for the telcommunications infrastructure.

The MSC project, expected to be a reality by the year 2000, would link the KL International Airport in Sepang, Kuala Lumpur City Centre and the new administrative capital, Putrajaya.

The 15 by 50 km MSC would be connected via fibre optic cables.

Echoing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's remark that the corridor would open up many opportunities for hardware and content providers Mohamed Said said: "There will be thousands of content providers."

"And no one corporation can control the provision of the content on the MSC in the future," he said, adding: "We (Telekom) will encourage content providers to come to the MSC."

Another panelist, Dr. Sandra Gualano, president and managing director of Marconi SpA, said the company would propose that a strong research and development (R&D) team be set up to develop a hardware and software for access network before entering the MSC.

"We need to develop the technology for access network where most of the money (sales) in the next few years will come from," he said. -- BERNAMA

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