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Mahathir-Technology

ACQUIRE SKILLS IN MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY, SAYS PM

ALOR SETAR, Jan 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that Malaysia has to acquire the multimedia technology so as not to be left behind in the rapid development of the world.

He said that the people should be prepared to face the prevailing demand through the mastery of computer skills and the multimedia technology to be able to compete with others.

"Our lives will certainly be influenced by the multimedia in all aspects...if we do not know how to use them we cannot progress," he said at a gathering of about 500 Barisan Nasional component party members who greeted him on his arrival at the Sultan Abdul Halim airport.

Dr Mahathir recently successfully promoted the Multimedia Super Corridor in the United States.

Dr Mahathir said that the information obtained through the cyber multimedia would be of enormous benefit to Malaysia.

He said that what was needed was the preparedness of the people to understand the technology, skills to use the computer software and the ability to assess the information that were channelled.

Dr Mahathir said that the multimedia technology would also improve the efficiency of the public service.

In this respect, he advised government employees to master the use of computers to upgrade productivity.

He later witnessed the presentation of gifts from the Association of Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti) by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, to the needy at their residence in Titi Gajah.

They later visited Pekan Rabu to make orders for cookies for the Hari Raya. They spent about 50 minutes there.

Later, Dr Mahathir left for Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) in Sintok to witness the signing of an agreement between Bank Bumiputra Malaysia Bhd (BBMB) and UUM for the establishment of the "BBMB Chair" for banking and finance studies as well as research.

The brief ceremony at the senate room was also witnessed by Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid.

UUM vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Shamsuddin Kassim represented the university while BBMB chairman Tan Sri Dr Abdul Khalid Sahan signed on behalf of the bank.

The RM2.5 million sponsorship, the first by the bank, is among the biggest for a local institution of higher learning.

After the signing, Dr Mahathir joined the students and Muslims to break fast and performed maghrib prayers at the UUM mosque.

Later, he witnessed the presentation of bursaries from the Association of Wives' of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti) by its president Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali. -- BERNAMA

MZM/MFJ TS