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Bouquet for Dr M's Smart partnership

Joseph Binkasan in London

BRITISH Prime Minister Tony Blair praised the Malaysian Government's promotion of Smart partnerships between the private and public sectors across Commonwealth.

Speaking to participants of the Commonwealth Business Forum in Edinburgh yesterday, he openly expressed high regard for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's leadership.

"He (Dr Mahathir) has told me himself about some of the remarkable experiments going on in Malaysia to attract high-tech investment. I would like to see this sort of innovative practice spread throughout Commonwealth," he said.

The biennial Commonwealth summit starts in Edinburgh today.

Blair said the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management was a great success. He said the British Government's task in the Edinburgh CHOGM would be to build on progress so far and ensure that it makes a leap to a new level.

Malaysia's delegation to CHOGM is headed by Dr Mahathir who will receive the Honorary Fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians. The Prime Minister will also be meeting with Heads of Government during the CHOGM.

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