

08 OCT 1997

MAHATHIR LAUNCHES PUTRAJAYA

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight launched Putrajaya, the nation's RM24 billion new federal administrative capital.

The launching of the city, named in honour of the country's first prime minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, took place at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

Planned as an intelligent garden city, Putrajaya, located 25 km from Kuala Lumpur, is within the Multimedia Super Corridor which also incorporates the world's first intelligent city, Cyberjaya.

Covering an area of 4,581 hectares, the city comprises 20 precincts, which includes the government, civic and cultural, commercial, sports and recreational and the mixed development precinct.

The Prime Minister's Department and his official residence, built under phase one of the project, will be completed by October next year. --

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