

17 MAY 1997

Cyberjaya

MAHATHIR TO PERFORM GROUND-BREAKING FOR CYBERJAYA

SEPANG, May 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here today to officiate the ground-breaking ceremony for Cyberjaya, the core component of the Multimedia Super Corridor located on a 2,800-hectare site.

The actual ground-breaking work will be performed by a "moonraker" machine as soon as Dr Mahathir inserts a smart card at the site.

Also present will be Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and other cabinet ministers.

The ceremony will mark the commencement of the development of the world's leading intelligent city comparable to the Silicon Valley in California, United States and other similar cities.

Cyberjaya will be the nucleus of the MSC, located south of Kuala Lumpur and to serve as a regional launch site for companies developing or using leading multimedia technologies.

The city, which will be developed using the environment-friendly concept is situated five km north of Dengkil at the road heading towards Puchong.

Next to it is Putrajaya, the federal government's new administrative centre on a 7,000-hectare site. Cyberjaya and Putrajaya will be separated by a highway known as Route 2020.

Dr Mahathir will use the same smart card to "order" earth levelling work to start for six companies that are already committed to set up operations in the intelligent city.

The companies are Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT), Telekom Malaysia Berhad, Sistem Televisyen Malaysia Berhad (TV3), Universiti Multimedia, Golden Hope Plantations Berhad and the Multimedia Development Corporation, the agency responsible for supervising the development of MSC.

Dr Mahathir will also participate in a tree-planting ceremony aimed at greening Cyberjaya which is being developed in a former plantation.

The bulk of the land was owned by the government, Golden Hope Plantation, Selangor foundation, Selangor Agriculture Development Corporation, Risda and the Youth Land Programme. -- BERNAMA

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