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MINIMUM SET OF REGULATIONS GOOD ENOUGH FOR MSC, SAYS IT RESEARCHER

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 16 (Bernama) -- Only a minimum set of regulations is necessary for the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) to allow for a more open and free growth of the private sector participating in it, an IT researcher told a dialogue session here today.

Principal of Asia Network Research Sdn Bhd, Izumi Aizu, said too many regulations will only hamper the growth of the technology companies operating in the MSC.

"In fact, a deregulation may be needed in time to come to make the laws suitable for any new technologies emerging in the MSC", he told a dialogue session on "From Vision To Reality -- An Update On the Progress of the MSC" at the 2nd Multimedia Asia '97 Conference and Exhibition.

He said technologies are growing so fast that it is impossible for any individual or company to predict what will happen in the next five years.

Against this scenario and with a stiffer business competition ahead, technology companies in the MSC will have to operate in a more friendly environment in order to come up with good and efficient results, he added.

"For me, policies and regulations in the MSC are only meant to give equal treatment to the operating companies", he said.

However, he said, he is confident that the MSC's cyberlaw being enacted will be the best and most applicable for the type of designated IT development in the MSC.

"More so, the MSC cyberlaw is of the same standard as cyberlaws governing IT centres overseas," he added.

Izumi also said that too much planning in the MSC will probably lead to an environment where companies will not operate and compete with each other in a healthy way.

"Give the companies more room to discuss and decide what will be best for them", he said, adding that this will help to ensure a more healthy flow of investment in or out of the MSC.

The four-day multimedia conference and exhibition was opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

It showcases some of the world's best multimedia solutions for benchmarking and application and has attracted some 118 local and international exhibitors.

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