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Significant British interest in MSC since PM's visit

Joseph Bingkasan in London

THERE has been significant British interest in the Multimedia Super Corridor after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's recent visit here to promote the MSC in the United Kingdom.

This is reflected in the number of memoranda of understanding signed between Malaysian and UK companies.

UK's Board of Trade and Secretary of State for Trade and Industry Margaret Beckett said that there would be a UK trade mission to Malaysia next month as a follow-up to the MoUs.

"I am delighted there has been a very good UK response to Dr Mahathir's MSC visit," she told an audience of business people from both countries at the "Malaysia-British Partnership: The London Dialogue" organised by the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli) here on Tuesday.

She said since coming to power in May, the Labour Government had been keen to create new relationships with key partners and Prime Minister Tony Blair had met Dr Mahathir in May.

Beckett said UK was looking to develop its business relationship in the Labour Government's three-year "Lands of Opportunity" South-East Asia Campaign aimed at introducing 750 new small-medium enterprises in the region for each year of the campaign.

She said Malaysia offered major commercial opportunities for British business, not only within Malaysia but also the Asean region of 500 million people.

"With its well-developed infrastructure and a administrative and common law system, Malaysia is an ideal, and very popular, destination for British companies," she said.

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