

18/05/1997

Simple but colourful launch for Cyberjaya

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - The launch of the Multimedia Super Corridor's first intelligent city Cyberjaya, at Bukit Damar, Dengkil, about 60km from here, was a simple but colourful ceremony.

Ministers, Menteri Besar, Chief Ministers, senior executives from local and foreign information technology companies and community leaders, witnessed the event which marked the construction of a city spearheading the development of the multimedia industry.

Cyberjaya is the nucleus and the first intelligent city within the MSC, the world's first mammoth multimedia project covering an area of 15km by 50km south of Kuala Lumpur. It will stretch from the Kuala Lumpur City Centre to the Kuala Lumpur International Airport and Putrajaya in Sepang.

The 7,000ha city will be equipped with advanced IT and telecommunications infrastructure to meet the business, residential and recreational needs of the residents within the development, with 10,000 knowledge workers who will live in the area.

The city will be served by a state-of-the-art telecommunications network with a capacity of 2.5 to 10 gigabits per second, to be installed by Telekom Malaysia.

This facility will enable high speed transmissions of voice, video and data between companies in Cyberjaya and the rest of the world.

It will be linked to the KLCC, Putrajaya and the KLIA by a dedicated highway and the Express Rail Link.

Living up to the high-technology image of the intelligent city, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad inserted a smart card before putting his palm on a monitor to activate a moonraker-type machine to break the earth.

Dr Mahathir surveyed the site for the companies which will be located at Cyberjaya using a computerised theodolite, a precision instrument with a telescopic sight to establish horizontal and vertical angles.

He then planted the merawan siput jantan tree to symbolise efforts to enhance the greenery of Cyberjaya.

The lush natural surroundings of the city will be preserved to provide a conducive working environment.

At the same time, 41 hot air colourful balloons were launched to indicate the site of the 41 companies which were already committed to the MSC.

Dr Mahathir then toured the Cyberjaya exhibition and the proposed activities of its tenants. The exhibition will be shifted to the Mines Resort Hotel in Sungai Besi for public viewing.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir witnessed the signing of a joint-venture agreement between Telekom Malaysia and Nippon Telegraph Corporation to establish a company to be launched by the end of June, focusing on the development of intelligent building systems.

Telekom will own 70 per cent of the company, which would have a paid-up capital of RM11 million, while NTT will hold the remaining 30 per cent.

Telekom was represented by its chief executive Datuk Mohamed Said Mohamad Ali while NTT president Junichiro Miyazu signed on behalf of his company.

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