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State-of-the-art opening ceremony for city in MSC

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THE ground-breaking ceremony for Cyberjaya, the first intelligent city within the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), will be a first-ever for the country.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who will perform the ceremony today, will use a smartcard which will activate a moonraker-type of machine to break the earth.

The smartcard will also activate several bulldozers that will level the ground.

In the presence of more than 1,000 guests, Dr Mahathir will also view and use several multimedia presentations such as the computerised theodolite, a surveying instrument used to measure angles.

The groundbreaking ceremony of the nucleus city within the MSC - the brainchild of the Prime Minister - coincides with the World Telecommunications Day.

The intelligent city will be developed by Cyberview Sdn Bhd, a consortium comprising Setia Haruman Sdn Bhd which holds a 55 per cent stake, NTT (15 per cent), MDC (10 per cent), Golden Hope Plantations Bhd (10 per cent), Permodalan Nasional Bhd and the Selangor State Government (5 per cent each).

Setia Haruman is a joint venture company comprising Renong Bhd, Landmarks Bhd, Country Heights Holdings Bhd and Datuk Mustapha Kamal Abu Bakar.

MDC is the company tasked with overseeing the development of the MSC, an area covering 15km by 50km stretching south from Kuala Lumpur.

During the ceremony, Dr Mahathir will also plant a tree as part of efforts to enhance the green image of Cyberjaya, which is carved out of old plantations.

As of May 13, 42 companies have been granted MSC status, to be set up in Cyberjaya. This is an achievement for the MSC, as it had targeted that only 20 companies would be given MSC status by May 17.

The seven pioneer companies, which will be involved in the groundbreaking ceremony today, are Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (TNT) of Japan, Multimedia University, Telekom Malaysia Bhd, Sistem Televisyen Malaysia Bhd (TV3), Permodalan Nasional Bhd, Golden Hope and MDC.

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