

21/02/1997

Taiping MSC opportunities

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ORACLE Systems Malaysia Sdn Bhd and the Selangor Human Resource Development Centre have teamed up to explore the potential in the information technology (IT) era and the nation's ambitious Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) project.

Oracle managing director, Khatijah Shah said the company is currently finalising details on its proposed investments in the MSC project.

"Our parent company, Oracle Corp, has always considered the MSC as an important area to be looked into. We have been involved in the progress of MSC right from the early days.

"We have also discussed with various key people on one of the MSC's application flagships as well as the possibility of investing in the project.

"In fact, our president met and discussed with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad three times on the MSC," she told reporters in Kuala Lumpur yesterday after signing a business agreement with SHRDC in Kuala Lumpur.

Oracle Corp president, Mr Larry Ellison, who is also the company's chief executive officer, is one of the members on MSC's international advisory panel.

The company is said to be the world's second largest software company and the largest supplier of software for information management.

Meanwhile, Selangor Human Resource Development Centre executive director, Mr Tan Beng Teong said the company is currently identifying world class job profile standards, which will include those IT training programmes that cater for the MSC.

"We are now benchmarking the world class job profile standards. These include identifying competence areas that cater towards the MSC.

"We may never know what to expect in the future but we can learn and keep abreast with the new system through education and training programmes," he said, adding that the MSC is an excellent concept that will eventually benefit all Malaysians.

Citing the situation when the automatic teller machines (ATMs) were introduced, Tan said the electronic and computerised gadget changed lives in the country.

"At the earlier stage, the public did not know or feel comfortable when using the ATMs. Now, even a vegetable seller or fish monger uses the ATM rather than having to queue up in the bank.

"With regards to the MSC, the public too will eventually familiarise themselves with the benefit that can be obtained from the project," he added.

He said there is a need for Malaysians to keep abreast with the latest information on advanced technologies and IT. This can be done through training programmes.

"This is where we come in to support and provide proper training in preparation to face the IT competitive edge and the use of multimedia in our daily life," he added.

Under the agreement signed yesterday, the centre was appointed as Oracle's approved education centre.

The Oracle approved education centre programme is an alliance of organisations located worldwide that delivers on-going technical training for Oracle and Oracle related products.

These centres will work closely with Oracle Corp to capitalise on the market popularity of Oracle products.

Khatijah also said 7 per cent of the company's revenue went to the development of education and training programme.

"Our annual growth rate is about 50 per cent and we expect our turnover for this year to remain the same," she added.

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