

# PM's bold vision on IT recognised

PETALING JAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was conferred the 1998 Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organisation (Asocio) Award for his outstanding and bold vision to promote information technology in Malaysia.

The award was presented to Dr Mahathir last night by Asocio president Dr F. C. Kohli at the Asocio-Pikom gala dinner held here.

In reading the citation, Mimos Bhd chief executive officer and president Tengku Mohd Azzman Shariffadeen said there were seven lessons that the Prime Minister had provided for the country

in the process of developing the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) and the IT industry.

He said Dr Mahathir showed the need for urgency when implementing a project, follow-up action, recognising to provide a visionary leadership and learning from those who have the knowledge.

Besides that, he pointed out that the Prime Minister also stressed the need to give a careful thought before making any move, to master the subject matter and communicate the idea in a simple manner and embrace the web and then open it to all.

In receiving the award, Dr Ma-

hathir said he did not think that he really deserved it but he would accept it not because of "me but for all those who made the MSC a reality."

He said many countries were speaking of having their own MSC after having seen Malaysia's success thus far in implementing the project.

Dr Mahathir described the Internet as the most beautiful creation on earth. However, he said there were people abusing it with their distorted thinking.

"A powerful medium like the Internet could be used to teach and educate human beings to understand one another better".