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RM600m additional allocation for Cyberjaya

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced an additional allocation of RM600 million for the development of Cyberjaya, the Multimedia Super Corridor's flagship intelligent city.

A decision was made by the Government yesterday to allocate the amount to finance the construction of infrastructure projects and other essential development programmes there.

Speaking at the closing of a conference on Positioning the Cyberpreneurs Into the Next Millennium and the launching of the MDC Access, Dr Mahathir said:

"We are going ahead with the building of the city and will equip it with the necessary infrastructure. We are investing a lot of money to ensure the projects are implemented as planned."

The MSC project will go on despite the current economic situation "simply because the place is already there and we don't have to buy the land and all we need to do is to put in the infrastructure in terms of cables, roads and buildings".

There is no obstruction to hinder the development of the MSC from either Government or the people and everyone will benefit from it.

"So far things have moved quite well despite the economic problems. I am quite sure we will be able to achieve our target.

"However, we need the participation of the private sector, both local and foreign, to invest in the MSC. There are vast business opportunities available in the MSC, particularly in computer software and hardware production."

Dr Mahathir urged Malaysian entrepreneurs to take advantage of the low cost in setting up their business in the MSC.

Malaysians have shown they are capable of applying the technologies in making various new products.

"I hope they will be able to export the products to earn foreign exchange."

Later at a dialogue with the participants, Dr Mahathir said the people, including those in the rural areas, would also get as much benefit from the implementation of the MSC.

"The people in the rural areas have shown strong interest in IT judging by their reaction to an IT exhibition held in a rural area in Kelantan recently."

Given the proper guidance, they would be able to learn and apply IT for their own benefit. The people in the rural areas are also fast learners, he said.

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