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Moggie-Y2K

WORKING COMMITTEE TO MONITOR Y2K BUG

KUALA LUMPUR, April 2 (Bernama) -- The Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Ministry has set up a working committee to monitor steps taken by private companies to tackle the Year 2000 (Y2K) or the "millennium bug" problem, its minister, Datuk Leo Moggie, said today.

"It is important to make sure that when the time comes our utilities like airport works, the communications works. This is an important issue," he said at a news briefing on the Infotech/ITX Malaysia '98 Conference at the Technology Park Malaysia here.

Moggie said the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu) had been tasked to monitor and coordinate the problems of Y2K in the government departments and agencies.

Mampu already identified 21 government department and agencies critical to compliance of the Y2K problem, he said.

The Y2K refers to the inability of the computer to read the year "00" for the year 2000 as the numerals also represent the year 1900 in the two-digit system.

Stressing that major companies needed to be serious in this matter, Moggie also reminded small- and medium-scale companies to ensure their network would be able to tackle the Y2K problem.

On the Infotech/ITX Malaysia '98 conference, Moggie said that it would discuss five important issues -- the Y2K, demonstrator applications, E-Commerce, security network and edutainment.

Mimos Berhad president and chief executive officer Tengku Datuk Dr Mohamed Azzman Shariffadeen, who was present, said that this year's conference would feature the various experiences of Information Technology (IT) implementators in transforming their ideas into innovative solutions and applications with local content.

The conference is a national IT dialogue framework outlining the progress and development of the national IT agenda at the national, state and local levels.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to open the conference to be held at the Putra World Trade Centre from April 21-24.

It is organised by the National Information Technology Council and the Association of the Computer Industry Malaysia in association with Mimos Berhad.

-- BERNAMA

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