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MAHATHIR-MSK

IAP TO REVIEW MSC PROJECTS TODATE, SAYS MAHATHIR

CYBERJAYA, June 28 (Bernama) -- The Third Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) International Advisory Panel (IAP) meeting beginning on July 8 will review MSC projects todate and deliberate on input by its members, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today.

"We want to hear from them what they think we should be doing," he told a press conference after launching MSC Venture Corporation Sdn Bhd (MSCVC), the first venture capital company to invest in the MSC.

Twenty five key personalities in the Information Technology industry will attend the meeting.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia would gather information on the latest developments in technology which might influence the direction of multimedia development.

He said that the number of attendees for the meeting would be comparable to the number of IAP members who attended the last meeting.

"From the 25, 12 are chief executive officers and 13 senior officials representing the CEOs," he said, adding that he was satisfied with the number who would attend.

Those who are expected to attend include Dr Stan Shih, chairman and CEO of Acer, Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of British Telecom, Lewis Platt, chairman of Hewlett-Packard, Bon-Moo Koo, chairman of LG Electronics and Ben Verwaayen, CEO of Lucent Technologies.

The IAP members would be shown the latest progress of the MSC such as the multimedia university which is up and functioning and the smart school projects.

The world's attention derived from the meeting would enable local multimedia and information technology companies to come into contact with international companies, said Dr Mahathir.

The prime minister also said local multimedia and IT companies are doing quite well with some exporting their products overseas and one already listed on Mesdaq.

On the development of the MSC, he said it was progressing very well in certain areas.

For instance, he said that the MSC has attracted 32 world class companies, out of 50 that it expects to attract by the year 2003.--BERNAMA

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