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Khair-IT

KHAIK KEEPS PACE WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 11 (Bernama) -- Not wanting to be left behind, 76-year-old Tan Sri Khair Johari, a veteran politician, takes the initiative to equip himself with the knowledge on Information Technology (IT).

With IT catching on very well among Malaysians, Khair said he had no choice but to learn as anybody who wanted to go far would have to get a good grounding in the modern technology.

"I have started to learn IT, otherwise I can't get along. IT is very important," said the former minister in country's first Cabinet after Independence in 1957.

Khair now heads several voluntary organisations. He gave credit to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for generating interest in IT among the people.

"We never heard of the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) before. All of a sudden he makes the people sing the song about IT in order to instill the love for this new invention into our country and he has done wonders," he said.

He highlighted the point in explaining the decision by the Malaysian Institute of Directors (MID) to honour Dr Mahathir, along with first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, as the "Man of the Millennium" for Malaysia.

Khair, who is MID president, said Dr Mahathir had done what many leaders in other parts of the world had never done to their own country.

"I'm not an `angkat' (curry favour) fellow, I don't believe in that...(but) I know for certain, I observe what he has done is simply marvellous. So we must give credit to him," he said.

Apart from the "Man of the Millennium" honour, the MID will also present the "Director of the Year" award to Permodalan Nasional Berhad chairman and former Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid at a dinner here on Saturday.

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