

09 JUL 1999
Mahathir-University
PM LAUNCHES CYBER UNIVERSITY

CYBERJAYA, July 9 (Bernama) -- The Multimedia University (MMU), the intellectual nerve-centre of Cyberjaya, was officially launched today by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

This marked another milestone for Malaysia as the MMU is the only university mandated by the government to churn out "cyber entrepreneurs" capable of inventing and marketing multimedia-based products and computer software worldwide.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar, Cabinet ministers and members of the MSC International Advisory Panel (IAP) attending IAP's third annual meeting witnessed the ceremony.

Built on a 80-ha plot and costing RM350 million, the MMU is located at the heart of Cyberjaya, one of the two intelligent cities in the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC).

The other is Putrajaya, the new federal administrative capital.

The MSC is a 750-sq km zone south of Kuala Lumpur designated as a hub for the development of multimedia products and services. Dr Mahathir launched Cyberjaya yesterday.

The university commenced operations in Cyberjaya last month, offering a spectrum of information technology and multimedia-based courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Formerly known as the Telekom University, it was based in Melaka since its inception in 1996.

Just as the MSC was built as a test-bed for emerging information and multimedia technologies, the MMU was conceived as a showcase for 21st century learning.

MMU's pioneer batch consists of 600 "Alpha" level and 2,800 "Beta" level students. It is projected to accommodate 6,000 students by the year 2002.

The students are pursuing engineering, telecommunications, information technology and management courses.

The MMU is being equipped with various intelligent features such as high speed ATMs, multimedia learning facilities, intelligent building systems, electronic governance, digital library and an integrated campus management system.

In conjunction with its opening, 20 MSC status companies are displaying latest multimedia products and innovations developed locally.

-- BERNAMA

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