

'PM launches UUM's computer SerindIT

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SINTOK, Thurs. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the SerindIT, a line of personal computers assembled at Universiti Utara Malaysia.

SerindIT, which comes in three categories, are assembled by UUM's Computer Centre since June, last year. A total of 1,200 such PCs are being used by students and lecturers at the university.

The university has achieved its target of providing each lecturer with a computer under this project and hopes to provide one computer for every 10 students.

Apart from cost saving, the project is also undertaken in support of the university's research and development efforts and to help build technology skills.

In his speech, Dr Mahathir said computer literacy was an important element for good management.

"I hope more people would be able to own and use the computer like they own a pen or pencil," he said.

He said the Government realised the importance of good management in both the public and private

sectors and that was why UUM was set up to provide management courses.

He also expressed hope that more Bumiputera youths would study management and acquire the skills to succeed in business.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding involving the university, Kulim Technology Park Corporation, Lotus Sales and Services Sdn Bhd and Mesiniaga Berhad.

The MoU will cover co-operation between the university and private companies for the development of information technology and UUM's e-university and e-learning programmes.

Also present at the ceremony were his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali and Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain.

Dr Mahathir, who was on a one-day working visit to Kedah, later had lunch with Tanjong Genting Risda settlers.

He also met villagers at Kampung Gelong, near Jitra.