

Be open to ideas, civil servants told

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PM: Give the ideas time to see whether they work

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: Government officers should not ignore ideas on high technology presented to them, even if some of them sounded ridiculous, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad says.

Government officers must consider, analyse and not be too critical about these ideas which are very important.

"Don't dismiss them just because you think they won't

work it takes time to see whether an idea works or not," Mahathir said.

The Prime Minister said this in a speech after being briefed on the work carried out by the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology here.

Mahathir said he believes Malaysia can progress more

in the hi-tech field if it is willing to entertain "absurd" ideas.

Those involved in the hi-tech field must be receptive to new ideas, or else there will be no high technology

High technology is something which was not available before but is here now because there were people

brave enough to come up with ideas.

"A lot of things can become realities, provided that you can accept ridiculous ideas," Mahathir said.

Sometimes, the private sector comes up with some fantastic ideas, but there are those who are not familiar or don't understand them.

Mahathir said better results can be achieved by working together with the private sector in the field of high technology, rather than confronting them.