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Parliament-MS

IAP FORUM CRUCIAL IN GATHERING LATEST INFORMATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- The Multimedia Super Corridor's (MSC) International Advisory Panel (IAP) comprising experts and heads of the world's information technology giants is crucial in enabling Malaysia to gather the latest information on developments in technology, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, Communications and Multimedia Chia Kwang Chye said this was because all the technology experts would be able to exchange views with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and all the local IAP members.

"The information gained from the forum would enable Malaysia to handle negative issues which might jeopardise the implementation of the MSC project," he said when replying to Wan Nik Wan Yusof (PAS-Bachok) during the questions and answer session.

Chia said the fourth IAP meeting which was held in August had decided to assist companies given the MSC status to market their products and services at the international level.

The meeting also recommended that Malaysia be turned into a centre for technological expertise for "Mobile Commerce, Call Management Centre, E-Commerce" and to develop Malaysia's expertise in herbal medicine through the implementation of telemedicine.

He said the fourth IAP meeting also agreed to develop a training and accreditation system in the field of information technology for mid-level managers.

It also agreed to set up venture capital to meet the needs of MSC companies besides special incentives for those who made large investments in MSC projects, he said.

Chia said the establishment of the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC) was to plan, encourage and monitor the implementation of MSC projects, besides functioning as a centre for investors in their dealings with the government.

"As such, the functions and operations of the IAP do not duplicate those of the MSC in any way," he said.

Replying to a supplementary question from Wan Nik, he said the declaration of the Putrajaya Federal Territory was not within his ministry's jurisdiction.

-- BERNAMA

AT MNY AO