

14 JUL 2000

Mahathir-University

MAHATHIR WITNESSES AGREEMENT SIGNING FOR IT UNIVERSITY PROJECT

BENTONG, July 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today witnessed the signing of a joint venture agreement between three companies to establish an Information Technology (IT) university in Bukit Tinggi Resort near here.

The agreement, involving a RM10 million-investment, was signed by Berjaya Group Berhad, Informatic Holdings Limited of Singapore and Tadmansori Holdings Sdn Berhad at the Bukit Tinggi Golf and Country Club.

Berjaya Group was represented by its director Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Din, Informatic Holdings by its chairman and CEO Dr Wong Tai and Tadmansori Holdings, its group managing director Dr Tengku Rethwan Tengku Mansor.

The agreement is to form a consortium for the intended project.

Berjaya Group is a major public-listed conglomerate in Malaysia and Informatic Holdings, a Singapore public-listed company involved in investment holding, a franchisor for computer and commercial training centres and examination facilitators while Tadmansori Holdings is an investment holding company.

As strategic partners, each company will have a 30 per cent equity stake in the joint venture entity, which will own and manage the proposed university.

Another strategic partner will be sought for the remaining 10 per cent stake.

Eventually, a new joint venture company will be formed to run the university, which had yet to be named.

Under the agreement signed today, Informatic will be responsible for setting up the university's structure of operation and management.

It will also provide the curriculum outlines and contents as well as in the marketing aspect.

Berjaya will be responsible for promotion as well as setting up the physical infrastructure of the university's main campus.

The proposed university will offer a full range of degree and post-graduate programme, including business, IT and engineering, emphasising on R&D.

Subject to approvals, the proposed university will be developed in two phases with three campuses, comprising two physical campuses and one cyber campus.

In the first phase, the proposed university would set up a city campus in Kuala Lumpur, and a fully functional cyber campus.

Both campuses would cater to local and international students.

Con-currently, construction of the proposed university's main campus will commence at Bukit Tinggi Resort, Pahang, which could accommodate more than 10,000 students.

-- BERNAMA

AFY ES RYN