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E-Commerce/EMBARGO

PM TO LAUNCH DSMM'S E-COMMERCE PROJECT

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will launch a new information technology-based project by the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (DSMM) tomorrow.

The IT-based modernisation project called "DSMM's e-Commerce" will enable DSMM to provide better service for the public to access, purchase and acquire digital data, especially on survey information, from the department over the Internet.

DSMM Director-General Datuk Hamid Ali said it was one of the modernisation projects initiated to facilitate planning and implementation of land and development.

"As a pioneering government department in Malaysia to introduce e-commerce, DSMM is pleased to welcome you to the world of virtual shopping," he said in a statement.

Hamid said the dissemination of digital data to users through the use of e-Commerce was the first of its kind ever implemented by any government agency and was in line with the concept of electronic government (e-government).

"The introduction of DSMM's e-Commerce also presented the department with a powerful marketing tool where potential customers are now globally located and products are accessible worldwide," he said.

Hamid said secure transactions were ensured through the use of Secure Electronic Transaction (SET) protocol, while accurate financial auditing was validated through the procedure approved by the Accountant-General's Department.

He said payment of all transactions using SET protocol was honoured by the appointed acquiring bank the following day.

Apart from easy retrieval of information without having to visit the department, the public can also use credit cards to make payments or pre-paid services through the Internet.

"As an option to users who choose not to transact using credit card, we do provide Prepaid Service, where users deposit a minimum sum of RM200 at any DSMM counter prior to the purchase of products through the Internet," he said.

Hamid said at present there are two kinds of products available on the Internet -- the Digital Cadastral Data (DCD) and the Raster Image of Certified Plan (CP).

"DCD is featuring Geographical Information System (GIS) ready data with spatial attributes, seamless databases, available in shape file and DXF format and convertible to other platforms, while CP features a complete collection of 460,000 copies of CP nationwide available in TIFF format with an average size of 300KB per plan," he said.

DSMM, which was institutionalised in 1885, is one of the oldest government departments in the country whose responsibilities include cadastral survey, topographic mapping, management of respective spatial databases and the provision of basic survey infrastructure as well as demarcation and survey of inter-states and international boundaries.

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