

09/09/2000

Post-grad institution for IT entrepreneurs proposed

CYBERJAYA, Thurs. - A post-graduate institution to train local information technology entrepreneurs in global marketing was among the proposals made at the International Advisory Panel meeting today.

IAP secretary Tan Sri Dr Othman Yeop Abdullah said entrepreneurs should understand that each market operated differently and different approaches should be used.

"There is a great deal of confidence in this. We can draw different institutions from all over to jointly manage this training institution," said Othman.

Othman said another suggestion was that Malaysia should concentrate on its core competency as it was impossible for the country to compete head-on with other global players.

Othman said among the areas the country could give priority to was manufacturing, agriculture and bio-technology.

Asked about comments from participants that Malaysia still lacked knowledge workers, Othman said a recent United Nations Development Programme study showed by 2005, the country could produce 108,000 such workers.

The demand for knowledge workers at that time was only 80,000, Othman added.

Earlier, Othman witnessed a tree-planting ceremony by panelists who attended the IAP for the first time. They were The Parkside Group partner Gilbert Amelio, Fujitsu Limited chairman Tadashi Sekizawa, Lotus Development Corporation representative Al Zolar and Compaq Computer Corporation president and chief executive officer Michael D. Cappelas.

Othman said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad also told the delegates to detach the country's economic revival from that of the region.

Providing indicators like the GDP growth, Dr Mahathir assured delegates that the country was on track to economic revival.

(END)