

17/11/2001

MDC donates RM100,000 to MMU

CYBERJAYA, Fri.- The Multimedia Development Corporation today handed over RM100,000 from their Multimedia Super Corridor Endowment Fund to the Multimedia University for student scholarships.

MMU Chancellor Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali was present at the presentation where university President Prof Dr Ghauth Jasmon received the cheque from MDC executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Othman Yeop Abdullah.

Othman said the fund was part of MDC's efforts to help develop knowledge workers for a technology-oriented society.

The amount was raised by the recent online auction of some of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed's computing memorabilia during the MSC-Multimedia Asia Expo 2001.

The items included two personal computers, a printer and a laptop which were used by Dr Mahathir from 1991 to 1996 in his office.

The Prime Minister's memorabilia auctioned also included five autographed copies of The Malaysian Currency Crisis - How and Why It Happened and five autographed copies of A New Deal for Asia.

Dr Mahathir wrote both titles.

The five-day online auction that started on Aug 30 was jointly organised by MDC and Lelong.com and raised RM97,903. MDC topped up the amount to RM100,000.

Among the successful bidders were Datuk Shahril Shamsuddin, Datuk Nik Othman Nik Hussein, Dr Mohd Hishamuddin Harun and Jiro Suzuki.

Othman said MDC would contribute more to the fund and hoped other corporations would set up similar funds.

"This is the start to our efforts. At the next MSC Expo, we hope to add RM500,000 to the fund to make MMU a centre of excellence, not only in the country, but regionally," he said.

MMU was established in 1996 and currently has 12,000 local and international students pursuing degrees in the fields of engineering, information technology, management and creative multimedia.

Some 80 students are expected to benefit from the fund.

The MDC, he said, wanted to support MSC companies and to raise greater awareness on the use of Internet.

Lelong.com managing director Richard Tan said online auctioning would take off in a big way as it was a 'cash converter' of sorts.

"The online auction for the MSC Endowment Fund was quite a success and Interbase (proprietor of the website) is proud to be part of it," he said.

(END)