

# On-line platform for a lifetime of learning

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**PETALING JAYA:** The country will soon have its first integrated online learning platform, the Malaysian Grid for Learning (MyGfL).

The grid is aimed at promoting lifelong education among Malaysians through online learning, National Information Technology Council (NITC) secretariat policy technologist Nurhanim Hassan said.

It also envisages a one-stop centre for online learning by incorporating networks and education services for learning activities.

"There is plenty of learning content available out there, which we are not aware of as the information has not been integrated.

"Some information is still

in hard copy and is not digitised. The MyGfL will integrate content and make it available online," Nurhanim told *theSun* when contacted.

She said that apart from content in formal education, the grid will also focus on informal learning.

"We want to make available on the grid, content like gardening techniques which may be relevant to farmers."

Nurhanim explained that a website is a simple page with information while a portal is a website equipped with search capacity.

Meanwhile, a grid is considered the "mother of portals" as it links more than one portal and will have the search capabilities to enable the user to search any content within the grid.

The project was endorsed last month by the NITC-state Information Technology

Council chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Nurhanim said NITC had set up a task force led by council member Prof Datuk Dr Ibrahim Ahmad Bajunid which will study the relevant issues in establishing the grid.

The content will be developed in collaboration with the relevant ministries and private agencies.

"However, content developers will still have to abide by certain standards and guidelines set by the task force," she said.

Nurhanim said one model for the grid is the National Grid for Learning set up in Britain.

The MyGfL is expected to be launched in September or October by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.