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MAHATHIR-TELEKOM

MAHATHIR URGES TELEKOM TO LOWER ITS RATES

KUALA LUMPUR, May 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has urged Telekom Malaysia Berhad to lower its rates so that more people can use telecommunication facilities.

"We are urging Telekom to lower their charges so that more people can use telecommunications for everything including access to information," he told reporters after officiating an ICT seminar organised by Umno Youth here today.

The government is the controlling shareholder of Telekom Malaysia.

Government-related bodies collectively control more than 80 percent of Telekom Malaysia.

Telekom Malaysia enjoys more than 90 percent of Malaysia's fixed line market.

The revised telephone call rates from Telekom came into effect March 1, this year. Under the new rates, all local calls would cost eight sen for the first two minutes and four sen every subsequent minute compared with the previous charge of nine sen for the first three minutes and three sen for every subsequent minute.

Domestic long distance rates were slashed between 23 percent and 54 percent and IDD tariffs were reduced between seven percent and 67 percent.

--BERNAMA

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