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Mahathir-InventQjaya

DR MAHATHIR OPENS M'SIA'S MEGA R&D LABORATORY

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 11 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today opened Malaysia's first mega Research and Development laboratory, InventQjaya Sdn Bhd (IQJ), designed to speed up the innovation of a world-class knowledge economy in the country.

Upon arrival, the Prime Minister flagged-off IQJ-MeVictory, a modified production car powered by metal fuel, which will travel from Cyberjaya to Alor Star in conjunction with the launching.

The vehicle will attempt to break the previous record run of 344.67km done by Reveo in New York.

The laboratory's inauguration will pave the way for Malaysia to join other countries to invent and produce high technologies.

Housed in a new state-of-the-art 28,000 sq metre facility in Cyberjaya, IQJ is a joint venture between the Malaysian Government and Reveo Inc of the United States.

A major initiative, IQJ is consistent with Malaysia's Science and Technology-based Vision 2020.

Its mission is to invent, innovate and discover for Malaysia, position the IQJ around the world as a place to come and do research, create new industries to export to the world "Made First in Malaysia" Science, Technology and products, ensure the IQJ business model dovetails within Vision 2020 and adhere to the "Globalisation by location" theme.

The IQJ aims to attract Malaysian scientists and researchers to return from abroad. Using the unique "InventQbation" business model, they will help to spin out new companies based on "made-first in Malaysia" products.

Currently, it has 35 scientists and technologists, most of whom are from Malaysia. IQJ expects to have 85 scientists by year-end.

The laboratory is a brainchild of Dr Mahathir after his visit to Reveo's laboratories in Elmsford, New York.

Dr Mahathir was impressed with its unique "InventQbation" business model, which emphasises nurturing and incubating inventions towards financial independence.

In January, Dr Mahathir announced the inauguration of a "Fast Track" laboratory here as a prelude to the formation of the IQJ.

Since then, Reveo had transferred eight technologies represented by 30 patents. It has six newly filed patent applications and five technologies transferred from Reveo as a goodwill gesture - including the use of nano-technology for self-cleaning windows.

Three companies -- MeFree, Rural Electrification and IQHarvest -- are being "InventQbated".

-- BERNAMA

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