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Yes, give us better coverage

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I AGREE with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call to all telecommunication providers to ensure total coverage nationwide.

Being a telecommunication engineer, I am sometimes required to travel all over Malaysia, including the interiors of Sabah and Sarawak.

From my experiences, most of the east coast areas, including palm oil and rubber plantations, are still lacking in cellular coverage. Being unable to receive or make important calls is very frustrating for those in these areas.

Malaysia has some of the best telecommunications infrastructure in Southeast Asia and we cannot afford to just concentrate on urban areas only. People in rural areas also need to be in communication with families and friends living in the cities or abroad.

Businesses in rural areas will increase and flourish when vendors, manufacturers, distributors and clients are able to communicate with one another.

Mobile communication technology is growing rapidly, especially in this part of the region. Our country has no doubt done a good job, but we still need to keep abreast with the latest technology like 3G and WiFi if we want to be on par with countries like Japan and Korea.

Telecommunication towers should also be shared by all the operators to ensure low cost and, most importantly, to conserve the beauty of a town or city.

Towers and base stations jutting out of every building will definitely be unsightly to visitors from other countries.

It will be a good idea if base stations and telecommunication towers were disguised as tree trunks or lamp posts to avoid disfigurement of a town, but, of course, these structures should not interfere with the