

Over half of M'sian households have broadband access
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The household broadband penetration in the country has risen meteorically to more than 54 percent from 31.7 percent at the end of last year, says Deputy Minister of Information, Communication and Culture Joseph Salang.

He said mobile cellular subscriptions are now around 110 percent while some 17 million Malaysians are subscribing to the Internet.

Malaysia is among the world's highest in social networking, he said.

"All these demonstrate the appetite and capacity of Malaysians to embrace trends and offerings of information and communications technology (ICT) and the potential for us to go to greater heights in this area," he said when opening the Lifestyle and Digital Home Technology symposium in Cyberjaya today.

The latest rate of household broadband penetration has surpassed the 50 percent of the target set for year-end and is targeted to clinch 75 percent by 2015.

Salang said industry players should look at the opportunities of expanding on their current services to incorporate digital home services.

The manufacturers, especially small and medium enterprises engaged in the ICT electronics field should explore the opportunities for them, while the research and academic institutions should play their rightful role in this sector, he said.

On the part of the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, the deputy minister said the commission would ensure that all aspects under its jurisdiction were attended to in moving forward the digital home agenda, he added.

- Bernama

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