

Malaysia aims to be outsourcing hub

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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia is poised to become a global base for international shared services and outsourcing facilities for multinational companies, the deputy prime minister said.

With the MSC project continuing to offer bold initiatives aimed at attracting foreign companies, Datuk Seri Najib Razak said an increasing number of firms were looking at Kuala Lumpur as their global base.

"Their presence would add to MSC's lustre as the host for international shared services and outsourcing facilities.

"Today, there are about 100 leading global companies and earlier this year, companies such as Dell (Inc) and Satyam (Computer Services Ltd) opened their global delivery centres while Al-Jazeera has selected KL as one of its regional broadcast centres."

He said this in his opening remarks on the first day of the 10th MSC Malaysia-International Advisory Panel

meeting at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre yesterday.

The MSC project is aimed at attracting high technology companies to accelerate Malaysia's progress into the information age.

"Since its inception 11 years ago, we have achieved many milestones from attracting investments to creating hi-tech jobs. We hope more multinational companies will opt for Malaysia as their regional office."

Najib expressed confidence that MSC Malaysia would contribute significantly to the country's economy, reaching exponential growth in value from connecting more people to the global network as well as spearheading the national information and communications technology (ICT) agenda.

This year's meeting, themed "MSC Malaysia Strategy Review: Enhancing Knowledge Infrastructure", was attended by several cabinet ministers and menteriis besar.

IAP representatives present included founder and chairman of BB-WORLD Consulting Services Dr Robert Bishop, Cutler & Company Pty Ltd

principal Dr Terry Cutler, Cyber Century Forum chairman Diana Lady Dougan, DHL ISSC Europe managing director (IT Services) Stephen McGuckin, Jazz Technologies Inc chairman and chief executive Dr Gilbert F. Amelio, Stanford University Herbert Hoover Professor of Public and Private Management Emeritus Prof William F. Miller, IDtrack president Robert Madge, Integrated Device Technology INC president and chief executive Greg Lang, Motorola Asia Pacific president Dr Simon Leung, Sun Microsystems Inc vice-president Dr John Gage, Dell vice-president Susan E. Sheskey and Ericson vice-president Ulf Pehrsson.

Najib also welcomed new members to the advisory panel, comprising Shinichiro Ishikawa from Gonzo Digmation Holding and Mahmoud Bouneb from the Jazeera Children's Channel.

He said all recommendations made in yesterday's meeting would be forwarded for deliberation in tomorrow's meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.