

# Still much to do to make MSC a success, says PM

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**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia cannot afford to rest on its laurels despite the achievements of the Multimedia Super Corridor Malaysia (MSC) project, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said the country still had much more to do, such as gearing up for the final push towards achieving developed nation status by the year 2020.

He added that the final leg could be the hardest, with many chal-

lenges ahead.

"We must be vigilant, ever resourceful and ever flexible as we navigate unknown territories to realise our goal," he said in his forwarding message, in conjunction with the 10th MSC Malaysia-International Advisory Panel (IAP) Meeting held from yesterday to tomorrow.

He said that since its inception in 1996, MSC Malaysia had been instrumental in driving and shaping the

Malaysian economy. Ten years into the project, it had achieved many milestones and targets, he said.

"The various flagship applications in Phase 1 have been successfully implemented while the national roll-out of MSC Malaysia under Phase 2 continues to gain momentum.

"These measures will contribute to the continuous development of the country's ICT industry and make Malaysia an attractive destination for

foreign direct investments," he said.

Abdullah added that the efficiency and cost-saving benefits of ICT in public service delivery, education and other important socio-economic sectors would continue to benefit Malaysians.

He said it was with this in mind that the Government launched the Ninth Malaysia Plan and the National Mission last year.

"It is against this background that

I view the importance of the MSC Malaysia-IAP Meetings.

"I would like to look upon it as a gathering of Malaysia's friends who meet on a regular basis to discuss and advise on matters of critical concern," he said, adding that recommendations and views drawn from IAP meetings have been crucial in helping Malaysia chart its future direction and ensure the sustainability of MSC Malaysia initiatives.