

**UCAPAN**  
**YAB DATO' SERI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI AHMAD BADAWI**  
**SEMPENA MAJLIS PELANCARAN WEB HOST ASIA**  
**DI ANGSA VILLA, CYBER GARDENS, CYBERJAYA**  
**2 SEPTEMBER 1999**

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Terlebih dahulu saya ingin merakamkan penghargaan saya kepada MITV Sdn. Bhd. kerana menjemput saya untuk merasmikan pelancaran perkhidmatan "Web Host Asia".

2. Perkhidmatan ini merupakan satu lembaran baru bagi sebuah syarikat bumiputera Malaysia dan melambangkan kejayaan anak tempatan dalam menerokai bidang Teknologi Maklumat yang kian pesat berkembang di negara kita, khususnya di MSC.

3. Saya berdoa, dengan izin Allah s.w.t, pelancaran ini akan menjadi titik permulaan untuk syarikat ini untuk terus menerokai dan berjaya dalam bidang Teknologi Maklumat.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Today we witness yet another step taken by an indigenous Malaysian company towards making Malaysia an I.T.-literate society. The new web hosting facility and services offered by MITV are in effect a result of the government policy to encourage Malaysian entrepreneurs and businesses to meet the challenges of the knowledge revolution.

5. In a field where new innovations and inventions occur almost daily, we have to be constantly on our feet to ensure that we do not miss our step in keeping up with the changes. At the same time, to take that giant leap towards making the MSC a world-class centre for I.T., we have to take many small steps; and today, it is one of those many steps we are taking.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. The Malaysian government has given its full support and backing for the development and growth of the I.T. industry in Malaysia. It is a testament of the government will that an idea which bloomed just three years ago has seen the completion of infrastructure such as the MSC, Putrajaya and Cyberjaya within that short period.

7. Despite the difficulties faced during the economic crisis of the last two years, the government, under the guidance and leadership of the architect of these projects, YAB Dato Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, persevered and ensured that the MSC would be in place. If the economic crisis had been used as an excuse to put the MSC and Cyberjaya on the backburner, then today, we would be very far behind the rest of the world in our development of the I.T. infrastructure which experts today acclaim as one of the best in the world.

8. But lest we misunderstand, let me reiterate that the MSC, Cyberjaya, Putrajaya, Multimedia University and the KLIA are not about being the best in the world. They are about preparing the next generation of Malaysians for the future. To prepare for

this future, the government had to invest in technology and infrastructure of the future.

9. Today, we are seeing the fruits of our endeavour. The recent IAP meeting showed that world leaders in I.T are appreciative of the facilities and infrastructure provided in the MSC and view it as a perfect place to invest in and promote advances in I.T.

10. One of the most important principles of the MSC is the promotion of smart partnerships or win-win formulas through forming strategic alliances and joint ventures.

11. We have here in the MSC an excellent world-class infrastructure and facilities for the development of the I.T. industry. We have world leaders in I.T. like Microsoft, Sun Microsystems, Acer, NTT and many others. We have home-grown I.T. buffs and businesses. We have a Multimedia University to churn out our own technicians of the future. Add all that up and throw in the full commitment of a government dedicated to the technology of the future, you have a perfect formula for smart partnerships.

Ladies and gentlemen,

12. The Malaysian government embarked on this concept of smart partnership in the 1980s through the concept of private and public sector cooperation for the larger benefit of the family known as Malaysia Inc.

13. This has been a large success as is evident from the remarkable growth of the country in the last decade. Sharing does not diminish competitiveness. In fact, it brings together resources, which, combined, can effectively progress and prosper for mutual benefit.

14. Allow me, ladies and gentlemen, to try to analogise the concept of smart partnership vis-...-vis the Malaysian experience.

15. If we delve into this country's history, we will see that the very first human settlements were small villages alongside rivers. In such villages, everyone looked out for each other. When the adults went to the padi fields to harvest rice, some of the ladies would cook and look after the children. In the fields, they would share their equipment and task. For example, if someone was weeding the fields, then a neighbour would be storing the stalks and another shedding the husks. At nights, the men would take turns to patrol the villages and look after their collective property. This spirit of co-operation and sharing is still a way of life in Malaysian villages.

16. If we expand this to the global village, sharing can only lighten our burden and ensure greater prosperity for the global community.

17. This is a concept, I note, that has been employed successfully by MITV through its strategic venture between Malaysian, Japanese and European businesses.

Ladies and gentlemen,

18. The government is pleased that Malaysians and their joint venture partners continue to make headway through such strategic alliances.

19. The government hopes that I.T. entrepreneurs will focus on developing the industry from the ground- up by taking advantage of the physical and regulatory infrastructure provided. I.T. firms, such as MITV, have the opportunity of developing new ideas that will further spur growth of the MSC. We would like to see more local I.T. companies embarking on such bold and innovative ventures and, at the same time, sharing their technology with both local and foreign firms to enhance Malaysia's role in the global digital revolution.

20. The MSC offers unlimited opportunities for those willing to work hard and use these opportunities. The recent announcement of the positive 4.1 per cent gdp growth for the second quarter signals that the worst is over for Malaysia and the region.

21. It also signifies that with renewed growth, there will be more opportunities especially in a fast-growing and ever-changing industry like I.T. in areas like e-commerce.

22. I take this opportunity to urge both Malaysian and foreign-owned companies to make full use of the opportunities. Let us for smart partnerships for our mutual benefit and the benefit of mankind.

23. Once again, I wish MITV and its joint venture partners success and officially launch the web host asia.

Thank you.