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MSC development on track, over 200 firms to be certified

MDeC is satisfied with development of MSC, which hauled in RM13b last year

ON TRACK in implementing the second development phase of the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), state-owned Multimedia Development Corporation Sdn Bhd (MDeC) is looking to certify another 200 to 300 firms as MSC Malaysia-status companies this year.

"We are currently on track in the second phase of the implementation of MSC for the years 2004 to 2010," CEO Datuk Badlisham Ghazali told *The Malaysian Reserve*.

"There would not be a decrease in the number of new MSC Malaysia-status companies as we have already built up the momentum," Badlisham said.

"We are looking at between 200 to 300 new MSC Malaysia-status companies every year," he added.

There are currently over 2,000 MSC Malaysia-status companies. These generated an estimated total revenue of RM13 billion last year.

MSC Malaysia-status is



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awarded to both local and foreign companies that develop or use multimedia technologies to produce or enhance their products and services, and for process de-

velopment.

Up to 2007, about 1,800 intellectual properties had been registered by individuals and companies. The total research and development expendi-

ture on these exceeded RM1 billion, according to MDeC.

In the second phase of the MSC development, similar MSC "corridors" will be established throughout Malaysia and a global framework of cyber-laws will be adopted, said Badlisham. In addition, he said at least four to five "intelligent cities" will be linked to other cities worldwide.

Badlisham said MDeC views the recent launch of various economic corridors as an extension of the government's goal for MSC initiatives.

"In fact, it has accelerated the government's initiative towards the establishment of MSC and spurred the generation of new economic activities in traditional sectors such as agriculture," he said.

He said that with the launch of these corridors, it is also the right time to introduce indigenous technologies through the economic corridors to fulfill new "definite requirements."

"Our role is to bring the IT companies into the triangle and to match them with the platform technologies offered by Mimos Bhd. They will have to be made available to the economic corridors via local players," Badlisham said.