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## Use Malaysian innovations, to succeed, companies told



**Honoured:** Dr Mahathir receiving the National ICT Development award from Dr Ongkili at the Mimos anniversary celebration yesterday.

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Local companies have been urged to take advantage of various technology platforms offered by research centre Mimos Bhd.

Science, Technology, and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili said Mimos had created more than RM1bil worth of innovations ready to be commercialised by local companies.

"This is important if Malaysia wants to compete against other innovation-driven countries like Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore.

"I believe it is possible for us to become an innovation leader in the Asean region based on the progress shown by local research facilities and number of patents being filed," he said during Mimos 25th anniversary celebrations at its headquarters at Technology Park Malaysia

in Bukit Jalil.

Dr Ongkili said 334 patent applications were filed by Malaysians at the Patent Cooperation Treaty last year, which placed Malaysia 25th among countries with most patents filed at a global level.

Of the total, 40.4% or 135 applications were filed by Mimos, he added.

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who also attended the ceremony to receive the ICT Leadership Award, said the Government should consider allocating more of its budget for research and development (R&D).

"To generate more profit from innovation, the researchers first need to have more resources to work with," he added, citing how Taiwan had put aside nearly 3% of its budget for R&D.