

# 'Good Internet connection a must to draw tech firms'

**JOHOR BARU:** Several international tech companies have expressed interest in helping Malaysia move forward in the information technology sector.

Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said he recently met representatives from Microsoft, Google and Amazon to discuss the matter.

"They not only want to help us move forward, but also to turn Malaysia into a regional hub for information technology," said Muhyiddin.

He revealed this during a question-and-answer session at a town hall meeting with federal and state civil servants at a hotel here yesterday.

He, however, stressed the importance of ensuring good Internet connectivity to attract investors.

Muhyiddin cited the story of Veveonah Mosibin, a Sabah girl who had to climb a tree to get a stable Internet connection to take an online examination.

"Her struggle is symbolic of the current Internet connectivity issues in Malaysia.

"The government has the political will to change this with new policies in future," said Muhyiddin.

Earlier, Muhyiddin proposed the setting up of a task force to review the civil service delivery system to promote faster recovery of the country's economy.

He said this was important because the economy, which was badly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, would be stunted by bureaucracy.

"I am worried that if there are no new measures taken, the economic recovery will not be as fast as we hope.

"In front of Datuk Seri Zuki Ali (chief secretary to the government), Datuk Hasni Mohammad (Johor menteri besar) and Datuk Azmi Rohani (Johor state secretary), I like to propose the formation of a special task force to study how the existing system can be reviewed."

However, he said any changes should not compromise financial procedures.

"If there is no change in our work flow, we will fail to revitalise the economy, which will affect the people," said Muhyiddin.