

Dr Mahathir to speak for Asia in summit

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, seen and accepted as a prominent frontliner in the Non-Aligned Movement, has been honoured with an invitation to address the closing ceremony of the 11th NAM Summit on behalf of Asia.

The invitation was extended to the Malaysian Government by Colombian president Ernesto Samper yesterday.

Dr Mahathir will speak for Asia while his counterparts from Africa, Europe and Latin America will address the closing ceremony on behalf of their regions.

Dr Mahathir, who will ar-

rive here from Galapagos, Ecuador on Tuesday, will also deliver his opening speech when the Heads of Government of NAM meet on Wednesday.

Among the heads of Government who have confirmed their participation in the summit are Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto, Cuban president Fidel Castro and Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat.

Meanwhile, when opening the senior officers meeting yesterday, Colombian Foreign Relations Minister Rodrigo Pardo Garcia-Pena

said members of NAM should consolidate efforts to find useful solutions to international issues.

"In this new era of international relations, Colombia welcomes NAM to study the possibility of evaluating new mechanisms to handle issues which demand the movement's primary attention," he said.

He added that further advances could be reached in the areas of health, housing, employment, sustainable growth, and integral training of human resources through the North-South and South-South co-operation.