

27 JUL 1996

Sarji-Harvard

PM TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT HARVARD CLUB MEETING

KUALA LUMPUR, July 27 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will deliver a keynote address and participate in a dialogue session at a four-day regional conference bringing together members of the Harvard clubs of Asia here beginning Aug 14.

Harvard Club of Malaysia president Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid said today he hoped the issues faced by contemporary Asia could be freely raised and rationally and critically discussed at the conference with the theme "Asia: The Challenges Ahead".

The dragon and tiger economies of East Asia had been out-performing their counterparts in Western Europe and North America but whether such economic dynamism could be sustained in the coming decades was a matter of intense debate, he said in a statement, here.

Meanwhile, growth had brought in its wake new problems and challenges for Asia and its relations with other economic regions in the world, he added.

The other speakers at the conference are Harvard alumni and eminent professors of Harvard Prof Jeffrey Sachs and Prof Ezra Vogel. Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Abdul Razak will speak on "Malaysia - As a Centre of Excellence in Education".

Ahmad Sarji said that during the conference there would be an official launch of the Malaysian Community and Education's Management Scholarship Programme for Malaysian Public Service officers at the Harvard Business School. The Harvard Club of Malaysia (HCM) Home Page on the Internet would also be launched.

The Harvard Club of Malaysia would also present a cheque to the National Library to start a "Harvard Corner", which would stock books presented by the HCM to the library, he added. -- BERNAMA

RZS JK