

20/06/1997

Dr M to present world youth awards

MALACCA, Thurs. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be the guest-of-honour at the Prime Minister of Malaysia World Youth award presentation ceremony to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in August.

World Assembly of Youth president Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam, who is also Deputy Transport Minister, said the foundation invited Dr Mahathir to give away the awards to five recipient countries or associations that had actively participated in youth development programmes.

Mohd Ali said the presentation ceremony, tentatively scheduled on Aug 24, was aimed at promoting the Kenyan Government's efforts in solving the problem of "street youths".

The award in 1995 went to the Norwegian Youth Council for its outstanding work in children's movements.

The first runner-up was the Mongolian Youth Federation for its stand against AIDS, drug and alcohol abuse which led to Government legislation against these ills.

The second runner-up was the Nigerian Youth Council which has been described as the role model for African youth movements.

Explaining the award, Mohd Ali said it was first suggested by Ole Simonsen, who was the WAY president in 1989.

It was suggested that the award be named the Prime Minister of Malaysia World Youth Award in recognition of the Dr Mahathir's untiring work and contributions towards youth activities and commitment to nation building.

(END)