

21/09/2000

Examining media's role in NAM countries

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - A two-day international convention on the role of the media in non-aligned countries will be held at the Blue Wave Hotel in Shah Alam beginning on Thursday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will launch the conference, to be attended by some 400 key media practitioners from most of the 101 Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) member countries.

The convention is organised by the Non-Aligned Student Youth Organisation (NASYO) East Asia Centre, the Association of Malay Journalists (PWM) and the Selangor Government.

Seven working papers will be presented at the convention held in collaboration with Universiti Malaya's Department of Media Studies and the International Islamic University's Department of Communication.

Organising chairman Datuk Mahadzir Mohd Khair said NASYO's president Subodh Kant Sahai will speak at the opening ceremony.

PWM's president Che Yazid Othman said several important resolutions are expected to be passed at the convention aimed at creating a free, efficient, independent and credible media in NAM countries.

He said the new millennium promises a global harmony and peace to be enjoyed by all.

"At the event, we will examine the extent of the role of media practitioners in NAM countries in handling their machinery to ensure accurate, quick and effective channelling of news to the masses," Che Yazid said.

At a Press conference recently, the event's main sponsor Sri Antan Sdn Bhd presented a cheque for RM150,000 for the convention.

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