

Misuari will not be given asylum

**Dr M: We cannot accept
those who create terror**

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By **Ferida Abdul Kudhus**

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: Malaysia will not entertain a request for political asylum from any person who has created terror in his own country.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was referring to Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) leader Nur Misuari.

He said Malaysia is working with Manila to send Misuari back, and hopes the republic will accept him. "This is because we can't hold him under detention forever.

"We cannot entertain requests for political asylum from people who have carried out terrorist attacks in their own country and taken ordinary people hostage," Mahathir said after opening the Permodalan Na-

sional Bhd gallery today.

Asked about complaints from Misuari's family that they were unable to visit him, Mahathir said he was not aware of such a request.

Asked if the family will be allowed to visit, he replied: "We will have to consider it."

Philippine President Gloria Arroyo on Friday rejected an appeal from the Organisation of Islamic Countries to grant Misuari sanctuary in a third country, and vowed to try him for rebellion.

Misuari's followers launched an uprising in the southern Philippine island of Jolo last month in a futile attempt to derail elections that ended Misuari's five-year run as governor of a Muslim self-rule region.

He was arrested with six followers on Jampiras island off Sabah on Nov 24.