

21/02/2003

Indian firms hope to boost ties with member States

INDIAN companies participating in the two-day NAM Business Forum are looking to boost existing relations with Malaysia and other NAM member countries.

The 25-member delegation, comprising members of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), is also keen to forge business links with Malaysia in sectors other than the construction industry.

The head of the confederation's Malaysia office, R. Sathish, yesterday said the Indian companies were also interested to acquire knowledge from Malaysian companies in areas like information technology hardware and knowledge-based industries.

"Indian companies, meanwhile, can offer their expertise in computer software," he said.

"We hope to use the forum as a platform where Indian companies can interact directly with NAM members," Sathish said.

A total of 600 delegates are due to attend the forum, organised by the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute, in association with the Foreign Ministry and Malaysia South-South Association.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will present a keynote address on "Building a New World Order - Sustaining Peace, Sharing Global Prosperity" when he opens the forum at the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel on Sunday.

In the evening, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will attend a "Celebration of Peace" dinner at the same hotel, where peace candles will be lit.