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Rotary's

Paul Harris

Fellowship

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been conferred the Paul Harris Fellowship for his contributions in recognising the voluntary services of Rotary members in their communities.

The presentation was made by the International president of Rotary, Mr Rajendra K. Saboo, when he called on the Prime Minister yesterday.

The fellowship is named after Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary International.

Interviewed here today, Mr Rajendra said his conversation with Dr Mahathir centred, among other things, over the Prime Minister's concern over the shortage of skilled workers in the country.

To this, Mr Rajendra, who is here to launch the *Preserve Planet Earth* campaign organised by the World Wide Fund (WWF), said this could be overcome with better education, especially through what he termed as functional literacy.

He said: "Functional literacy is not only one's ability to read and write but to do so at a level that would enable individuals to communicate and therefore meet the demands of their jobs and subsequently enhance their quality of life."

The problem of functional illiteracy was not only common to developing countries but also in many industrialised nations. In France, about 15 per cent of adults are totally illiterate.