



Uzbeks keen to apply new knowledge

By Paramjit Singh

THESE five officials from Uzbekistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs are eager to get back to their homeland after having gained some insights in the field of diplomatic relations in Malaysia.

They are (from left) Bakhtiar Ibrahimov, 27; Ulugbek Rasoulov, 26; Kabuljan Sabirov, 26; Noorillah Maizubkhonor, 42; and Farrukh Baikabulov, 27.

They have just completed a three-month diplomatic course for foreign service

officers of the Central Asian Republics at the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations in Petaling Jaya.

They were among the 19 participants. The others were from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan.

Kabuljan, a former soldier with the Russian army, said he decided to join the diplomatic service because it was a challenging career.

He said Malaysia had a lot to offer to the newly-independent states.

"Malaysia has a good

track record in many economic sectors," he said, adding that his three-month stay here had given him a good insight on the country's development programmes.

Noorillah, 42, said that during the course the participants visited Pahang, Terengganu, Malacca, Penang and Sarawak and got to know more about the people and the success of the various policies implemented by the Government.

"I find Malaysians warm, generous and helpful. I espe-

cially enjoyed my visit to Sarawak. The State is very beautiful."

Farrukh, 27, a nuclear physicist, who is with the foreign embassy in Moscow, said his country needed assistance and co-operation from other countries.

Bakhtiar, 27, said the course had exposed him to aspects of economic diplomacy which was important to him especially at a time when his country was at the beginning of a search for a place in the world community.