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MAHATHIR  
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KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 17<sup>75</sup> (BERNAMA) -- EDUCATION MINISTER (DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAYS HE HOPES TO VISIT MALAYSIAN STUDENTS ABROAD TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY.

OFFICIALS WILL ALSO BE SENT TO THESE COUNTRIES FOR THE SAME PURPOSE, HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE TODAY.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE RECENTLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING SOME MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN BRITAIN, INCLUDING THOSE IN BELFAST.

HE SAID SUCH A MOVE WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE ALLEGATIONS MADE BY CERTAIN ELEMENTS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

WHAT SADDENED HIM WAS THAT THESE ALLEGATIONS WERE MADE BY THOSE WHO HAD LOST TOUCH WITH WHAT WAS ACTUALLY GOING ON IN THE COUNTRY.

DR. MAHATHIR CITED THE CASE OF ALLEGED STARVATION IN A KEDAH VILLAGE WHICH HAD BEEN FOUND TO BE UNTRUE, ACCORDING TO A STUDY MADE BY PROF. ZAINAL ABIDIN AND TWO OTHER UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN STAFF MEMBERS.

HE SAID THERE WAS ALSO THE WILD ALLEGATION OF A UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA STUDENT BEING PARALYSED DUE TO NERVE GAS + THE STUDENT IS WALKING ROUND THE CAMPUS. +

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SHOWED REPORTERS PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE VILLAGERS IN GOOD HEALTH TAKEN BY PROF. ZAINAL AND HIS FRIENDS DURING THEIR VISIT TO KEDAH LAST MONTH. -- BERNAMA 1510/AI