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MALACCA, APRIL 13 (BERNAMA)— EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED TOLD MALAY STUDENTS TODAY THAT THEY SHOULD NOT REGARD ENROLMENT INTO UNIVERSITIES AS CAUSE FOR THEM TO REST ON THEIR LAURELS.

THEY MUST STRIVE TO DO WELL IN THEIR EXAMINATIONS OR THE PURPOSE OF THEIR STAY AT UNIVERSITIES WOULD BE DEFEATED, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAY STUDENTS UNIONS HERE.

+ IF WE GO TO THE CAMPUSES, + DR. MAHATHIR SAID, + WE WILL SEE MANY MALAY STUDENTS. BUT IS THIS OUR OBJECTIVE? IF SO, WE CAN LOWER THE ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS TO INCREASE THIS NUMBER. + DR. MAHATHIR SAID THERE HAD BEEN MUCH TALK ABOUT THE NUMBER OF MALAY STUDENTS BUT LITTLE ABOUT THE PORTION WHICH PASSED.

— BERNAMA MORE 1952/1B *Cont. III 112*

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE PERCENTAGE OF MALAY STUDENTS WHO PASSED WERE LOW WHEN COMPARED WITH OTHERS. HE CITED A CASE WHERE ONLY 14 OF 60 MALAY STUDENTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FIVE-YEAR COURSE.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE QUALITY OF STUDENTS WAS NOT MEASURED BY THEIR VOCIFEROUSNESS OR THEIR ABILITY TO STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS BUT THROUGH EXAMINATIONS.

AND EXAMINATION RESULTS YEARLY SHOWED THAT MALAY STUDENTS STILL LAGGED BEHIND, AND COULD NOT AFFORD TO WASTE THEIR TIME.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAD ENTERED UNIVERSITIES WITH MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS MUST BE ESPECIALLY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR THEM TO STUDY HARD. — BERNAMA MORE 2050/1B

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THEY SHOULD SPEND THEIR VACATION CATCHING UP ON THEIR STUDIES AND PREPARING FOR THE NEXT TERM INSTEAD OF BUSYING THEMSELVES WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS. +

DR. MAHATHIR CRITICISED MALAY STUDENTS WHO ARE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT RIGHTS, AND SAID THAT MANY OF THEM WERE IN UNIVERSITIES NOT BECAUSE OF ANY SPECIAL TALENT THEY HAVE. +

HE REMINDED THEM THAT THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MALAY STUDENTS WAS THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF OTHERS, NOT THEIRS.

THE ASSISTANCE THAT THEY RECEIVE TO CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES SHOULD BE AN INCENTIVE FOR THEM TO TRY EVEN HARDER, HE SAID.

— BERNAMA 2107/1B