

112:  
MAHATHIR-FEES  
BM

P KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 16<sup>75</sup> (BERNAMA) -- THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, EXPLAINED TODAY THAT THE HSC/STP AND MCE/SPM EXAMINATION FEE INCREASES WERE FIXED BY THE CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATION SYNDICATE AND NOT BY THE EDUCATION MINISTRY.

HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE THAT THE SYNDICATE HAD INCREASES THE FEES IN VIEW OF THE RISING COST OF ADMINISTERING EXAMINATIONS.

+THE SYNDICATE IS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODY AND HAS TO RELY ON ITS OWN FINANCIAL SOURCES,+ HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE MINISTRY HAD BEEN ASSURED BY THE SYNDICATE THAT THE INCREASES WERE AT THE LOWEST RATES AND WERE STILL MUCH LESS COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR SIMILAR EXAMINATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE NEW EXAMINATION FEES ARE: SPM INCREASED FROM \$76.55 TO \$93.15 FOR THE MAXIMUM NUMBER SUBJECTS, MCE FROM \$83.70 TO \$103.67, AND HSC/STP FROM \$80.90 TO \$99.80 FOR FOUR PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS AND ONE SUBSIDIARY. -- BERNAMA 2007/LK