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EDUCATION

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 15 (BERNAMA) --- MALAYSIA WILL CONTINUE TO RECRUIT INDONESIAN MATHS AND SCIENCE TEACHERS TO MEET HER SHORTAGE OF SUCH TEACHERS, EDUCATION MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, SAID TODAY.

MALAYSIA HOWEVER, WOULD ALSO TRAIN MORE LOCAL TEACHERS TO OVERCOME THE SHORTAGE.

HE WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER MEETING A 10-MEMBER DELEGATION FROM THE INDONESIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION LED BY ITS DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DRS. T. UMAR ALI.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID AT PRESENT THERE WERE ABOUT 200 INDONESIAN TEACHERS AND LECTURERS SERVING TWO YEAR CONTRACTS IN MALAYSIA.

HE ADDED THAT THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO MAKE THEIR SCIENCE AND MATHS TEACHERS AVAILABLE TO MALAYSIA AS LONG AS IT DID NOT AFFECT THEIR SCHOOLS.

ON THE RECOGNITION OF INDONESIAN DEGREES, HE SAID THE MINISTRY WAS CONTINUALLY EVALUATING AND ASSESSING THE VARIOUS INDONESIAN DEGREES.

HE SAID AT PRESENT, THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED DEGREES FROM ABOUT FIVE INDONESIAN UNIVERSITIES.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW SYLLABUS FOR TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND SUBJECT IN FORM FOUR, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE MINISTRY WAS TRAINING MORE TEACHERS TO TEACH THIS SUBJECT.

AT PRESENT, TRAINING FOR SUCH TEACHERS WAS GIVEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA SINCE IT WAS THE ONLY UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY THAT HAD FACILITIES FOR SUCH TRAINING.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS THE POLICY OF THE MINISTRY TO POST SUCH TEACHERS TO THE SCHOOLS WHICH NEEDED THEIR SERVICES MOST AND NOT NECESSARILY TO THEIR FORMER SCHOOLS.--BERNAMA BY 1247