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MIT-MAHATHIR
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KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 11 (BERNAMA) — THE MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MAY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF ITS STUDENTS FROM THE PRESENT 7,000 TO ABOUT 4,500 — THE FIGURE ORGINIALLY PLANNED — WHEN IT REOPENS SOON.

THE EDUCATION MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, TOLD BERNAMA TODAY THAT FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF THE TWO CAMPUSES IN SHAH LAM AND JALAN OTHMAN, PETALING JAYA, ALL THE STUDENTS +WERE NO LONGER CONSIDERED STUDENTS.+

NEW PROCEDURES WOULD BE IMPOSED ON THE STUDENTS DURING REGISTRATION, HE SAID.

THOSE WHO WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED INTO THE SHAH ALAM AND JALAN OTHMAN CAMPUSES MIGHT BE SENT TO OTHER CAMPUSES OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

THE MINISTER SAID THE SHAH ALAM CAMPUS WAS ORIGINALLY PROJECTED TO ACCEPT ONLY 4,500 BUT THIS NUMBER HAD NOW SWELLED TO 7,000.

+THIS NUMBER WILL POSSIBLY BE REDUCED IN KEEPING WITH THE ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE.+ HE SAID.—BERNAMA MORE BY 1737

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WOULD MEET ALL PARTIES CONCERNED TO PLAN NEW PROCEDURES IN LINE WITH THE REAL OBJECTIVES OF SETTING UP THE INSTITUTE.

+MIT NOW IS NO LONGER AN INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER LEARNING IN VIEW OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW PROCEDURES WOULD ENSURE THAT MIT EXIST AS A TRUE INSTITUTE OF LEARNING.

HE SAID THE MINISTRY WAS NOW STUDYING SEVERAL PROBLEMS WHICH HAD BROUGHT ABOUT THE RECENT SITUATION.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WOULD HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH MIT DIRECTOR DATUK LOKMAN MUSA AND HIS STAFF IN TWO OR THREE DAYS TO ENSURE THAT SEVERAL COURSES COULD BE STARTED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

PROPER CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS' WELFARE AND PRIORITIES WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED IN REACCEPTING THEM.—BERNAMA MORE BY 1740

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DR. MAHATHIR ASSURED PARENTS THAT EVERY DECISION TAKEN BY THE AUTHORITIES WOULD BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES.

HE SAID IT WAS NO USE FOR SOME STUDENTS TO BE AT THE INSTITUTE IF THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF STUDYING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR PARENTS' WHISHES.

THE INSTITUTE WOULD ACCEPT ALL STUDENTS NOT INVOLVED IN THE RECENT INCIDENT AND THOSE WHO DEVIATED BUT HAD REPENTED AND PROMISED NOT TO REPEAT THEIR MISTAKES.

DR. MAHATHIR, ACCOMPANIED BY SELANGOR CPO ENCIK SANTOKH SINGH AND MIT STAFF, VISITED THE SHAH ALAM HOSTELS BEFORE THEY WERE VACATED BY THE STUDENTS YESTERDAY.

CONDITIONS IN THE HOSTELS WERE NOT PLEASANT, HE SAID. THE MINISTER PRAISED THE POLICE FOR THEIR PATIENCE AND SUCCESS IN INDUCING THE STUDENTS TO LEAVE THE CAMPUS WITHOUT ANY UGLY INCIDENTS.

HE ALSO PRAISED THE MIT STAFF WHO HAD DONE THEIR PART TO HELP SETTLE THE PROBLEM.—BERNAMA BY 1744