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KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 3 (BERNAMA) -- PARENTS AND STUDENTS WERE ADVISED TODAY NOT TO TAKE PART IN AN EDUCATIONAL FUND AND SUPPLY SCHEME ORGANISED BY THE SYARIKAT DAYAUSAHA PERMASARAN PENGELUARAN INDASTERI.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, WHO IS ALSO THE EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID HE DID NOT SUPPORT THE SCHEME BECAUSE HE WAS DOUBTFUL OF ITS INTENTIONS.

IN A STATEMENT, HE SAID THAT ALL HEADMASTERS HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO REMIND PUPILS AND PARENTS NOT TO TAKE PART IN THE SCHEME.

HE SAID THE COMPANY HAD SOUGHT HIS SUPPORT FOR THE SCHEME WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS PROMISED VARIOUS FORMS OF ASSISTANCE AND SUPPLIES TO STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART IN IT.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMPANY, MOHAMED NORZIAN NUSSEIN, WAS ARRESTED BY POLICE ON APRIL 17 AND INVESTIGATIONS WERE BEING CONDUCTED INTO THE COMPANY FOLLOWING COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC. -- BERNAMA MORE 2353/LK

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NORZAIN, WHO WAS ALSO KNOWN AS MOHD. ZAIN BIN HUSSEIN AND M. ZAINI, WAS ALSO THE MANAGER OF THE MAKTAB PENGURUSAN PERANTIS AND HAD BEEN CHARGED IN THE SEREMBAN SESSIONS COURT WITH OPERATING AN INSTITUTION WITHOUT COMPLYING WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE EDUCATION ACT.

HIS TRIAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 18.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT DURING INVESTIGATIONS, EDUCATION MINISTRY OFFICIALS FOUND OUT THAT THERE WERE ONLY TWO TABLES IN THE COLLEGE'S OFFICE WHICH AT THE BACK PORTION OF A PRIVATE OFFICE IN SEREMBAN.

ACCORDING TO ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE PRESS, THE COLLEGE WAS OFFERING 33 INDUSTRIAL COURSES FOR SRP STUDENTS OR THOSE WAITING FOR THEIR SPM RESULTS.

DR. MAHATHIR ADVISED THE PEOPLE TO BE CAUTIOUS BEFORE SENDING MONEY TO THE COMPANY OR COLLEGE.

THOSE WHO HAD PAID UP AND HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY OF THE THINGS PROMISED SHOULD REPORT TO THE POLICE, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA 2357/LK