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NO47 (F)
UMNO-MAHATHIR
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76 (9)
KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 4 (BERNAMA)-- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR DENIED TODAY THAT DEGREES CONFERRED BY UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN WERE NOT OF THE SAME STANDARD AS THOSE AWARDED BY OTHER UNIVERSITIES IN THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD LONG RECOGNISED SUCH DEGREES TO BE EQUAL TO THOSE OF OTHER UNIVERSITIES.

THIS WAS EVIDENT AS MANY UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN DEGREE HOLDERS WERE BEING EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID.

+IF THE DEGREES ARE NOT RECOGNISED, THE GRADUATES FROM THE UNIVERSITY COULD NOT HAVE FOUND EMPLOYMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT,+ HE STRESSED.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO VICE-PRESIDENT, WAS REPLYING TO POINTS RAISED BY DELEGATES DURING THE DEBATE ON THE ACTING PRESIDENT POLICY SPEECH AT THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE. - BERNAMA MORE 1705/1B

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NO48: (F)
UMNO-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THAT THE SELECTION OF PERSONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN THE GOVERNMENT DEPENDED NOT ONLY ON THEIR QUALIFICATIONS BUT ALSO ON THEIR PERFORMANCE AT INTERVIEWS.

THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY FOR APPLICANTS TO HOLD DEGREES FROM CERTAIN UNIVERSITIES SO LONG AS THEY HAD THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE JOBS APPLIED FOR, HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP A RELIGIOUS TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN KUALA LUMPUR NEXT YEAR.

THE COLLEGE WILL OCCUPY THE PREMISES OF THE ISLAMIC FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN WHEN THE FACULTY WAS MOVED TO THE UNIVERSITY'S NEW CAMPUS IN BANGI.

FURTHER, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO SET UP TWO ORDINARY TEACHERS' COLLEGES IN TRENGGANU AND KEDAH, HE SAID. --BERNAMA MORE 1708/1B

NO49: (F)

ON THE SHORTAGE OF BUMIPUTRA STUDENTS IN THE ENGINEERING FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA, DR. MAHATHIR SAID GOVERNMENT LEADERS WERE AWARE OF THE SITUATION AND WERE DEALING WITH IT.

TO CORRECT THIS ANOMALY, THE UNIVERSITY WOULD SET UP A BASIC SCIENCE CENTRE NEXT YEAR TO TRAIN BUMIPUTRA STUDENTS WITH SPM/MCE IN SCIENCE.

AFTER A TWO-YEAR COURSE, THEY WOULD BE +STREAMED+ TO UNDERGO DEGREE STUDIES IN THE FOUR FACULTIES --MEDICINE, ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND DENTISTRY.

HE BELIEVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BUMIPUTRAS IN ALL THE SCIENCE-BASED FACULTIES.

ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE EDUCATION MINISTRY WOULD BE REVIEWING THE SYLLABUS AND INCREASE THE TIME ALLOTTED FOR THE SUBJECT IN SCHOOLS.

THESE STEPS WERE BEING TAKEN FOLLOWING STUDIES MADE BY THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL SET UP A FEW YEARS BACK. -- BERNAMA MORE 1713/1B

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NO50: (F)
UMNO- MAHATHIR @ KUALA LUMPUR

HE URGED THE DELEGATES TO ALLOW THE COUNCIL TO FURTHER REVIEW THE WEAKNESSES OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SYSTEM.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO COMMENDED THE UNITED KINGDOM UMNO CLUB FOR ITS EFFORTS TO GUIDE THE MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN LONDON.

HE BELIEVED THAT THE CLUB'S EFFORTS WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP UMNO INSTILL NATIONAL SPIRIT AMONG STUDENTS.

HE ALSO COMMENDED THE CLUB'S LEADER, ENCIK MAZLAN BADOR, WHO ADDRESSED THE ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING. -- BERNAMA 1715/1B