

NO21 (F)
MAHATHIR-UNIVERSITY

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 15⁸¹ (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING THE NEED TO SET UP ANOTHER UNIVERSITY TO COPE WITH THE MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS OF THE COUNTRY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, SAID TODAY.

IN VIEW OF THE HUGE AMOUNT OF MONEY BEING SPENT TO SEND STUDENTS ABROAD, SUCH A MOVE MIGHT BE NECESSARY, HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE HEADS OF MALAYSIAN MISSION CONFERENCE AT WISMA PUTRA HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT AS THE COUNTRY DEVELOPED, THE DEMAND FOR PLACES IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING ALSO INCREASED.

THERE WERE ABOUT 40,000 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN EUROPE ALONE AND IF \$1,000 WAS SPENT ON EACH STUDENT PER YEAR, THE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE WOULD AMOUNT TO \$40 MILLION.

BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT THE COST OF SENDING STUDENTS TO BRITAIN WAS \$15,000 PER STUDENT A YEAR AND TO THE UNITED STATES, \$12,000. -- BERNAMA MORE 1310/SZ

NO26 (F)
MAHATHIR - UNIVERSITY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT THE DIRECTIVE ISSUED RECENTLY ON THE COLLECTION OF DATA ON MALAYSIAN STUDENTS ABROAD WAS TO FIND OUT THE EXACT NUMBER OF MALAYSIANS STUDENTS STUDYING OVERSEAS.

+BECAUSE OF THE POLICIES OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES, WE MIGHT HAVE TO ENLARGE SOME OF THE LOCAL FACULTIES.

WE MIGHT CONSIDER SETTING UP ANOTHER UNIVERSITY, + HE SAID.

+IT DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH MONEY WE ARE SPENDING, + HE ADDED.

THE FACT THAT MALAYSIA ALREADY HAD FIVE UNIVERSITIES + DOES NOT MEAN WE CANNOT HAVE SIX, + HE SAID. +THIS DEPENDS ON THE NEEDS AND DEMANDS OF THE COUNTRY. +

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE INTAKES OF LOCAL UNIVERSITIES.

ON THE PROPOSED SENDING OF MALAYSIAN STUDENTS TO JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA, HE SAID EMPHASIS WOULD BE ON ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP.

SPECIAL LANGUAGE CLASSES WOULD BE ORGANISED FOR SELECTED CANDIDATES TO ENABLE THEM TO FOLLOW COURSES IN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

— BERNAMA MORE 1415/MK

NO27 (F)
MAHATHIR - UNIVERSITY 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIA WAS NOT LOOKING FOR PLACES IN THE JAPANESE UNIVERSITIES AS IT MIGHT BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR MALAYSIAN STUDENTS DUE TO LANGUAGE PROBLEMS.

+THE BEST WE CAN DO IS TO SEND STUDENTS FOR DIRECT TRAINING OR APPERNTICESHIP IN INSTITUTIONS WITH CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS,+ HE SAID.

SUCH INSTITUTIONS WOULD BE MUCH EASIER FOR MALAYSIAN STUDENTS TO ENTER, HE SAID.

ON REPORTS OF LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AMONG MALAYSIAN STUDENTS ABROAD, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE MALAYSIAN MISSIONS HAD DONE THEIR BEST.

IT WAS QUITE IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL EVERY STUDENT ON EACH DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY THOSE STUDYING IN ISOLATED PLACES.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE UNITED STATES, THE MALAYSIAN MISSIONS ARE BASED IN NEW YORK, WASHINGTON AND ANOTHER IN THE WEST COAST BUT THE POPULATION OF MALAYSIAN STUDENTS THERE WAS SPREAD ALL OVER THE U.S.

+SO THERE WILL BE SOME WHO ARE IGNORANT BUT SOME PURPOSELY IGNORANT,+ HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA : 24/MK