

Fauzi: 2 officers undermining PM

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By Sivakumar Kuttan

KUANTAN, Sun. — The Information Ministry has identified two Information Department officers who are believed to be involved in undermining Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Information Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman said his ministry would take disciplinary action against the two officers including possible dismissal from service.

He said the two officers, who were now under investigation, were attached to the department's special affairs division.

"I have asked the authorities to monitor the movements of these officers," he said after opening a four-

day course for officers of the Information Department's special affairs division at the Pahang Agriculture Training Centre here.

Fauzi said the ministry had to take such action to prevent activities of this nature because it did not only involve national security but it would also embarrass the nation.

He said that attempts to undermine Dr Mahathir might cause certain unscrupulous quarters to take advantage of the situation. For example, there were countries in the West which are unhappy with Dr Mahathir because he was vocal in international affairs.

"This is because they feel that Dr Mahathir's struggle for the development of the Third World will have a negative effect on them."

He said they were unhap-

py with Dr Mahathir's ideas which included his call to punish Yugoslavia for the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, during the recent Non-Aligned Movement summit in Jakarta.

He added the Government was worried that the two officers might be used as scapegoats by the unscrupulous parties to smear the country's good name.

Earlier, Fauzi urged all Information Department special affairs division officers to keep abreast with local and international developments.

"They should know in detail every development both locally and in the international arena because these are the officers who disseminate information," he said.

Some 25 officers are attending the course.