

20 JUN 1996

Youth

YOUTH TRAINING CURRICULUM UNDER REVIEW

PASIR MAS, June 20 (Bernama) -- The National Youth Skills Training Institute's curriculum will be reviewed to tailor to the country's future skilled manpower requirement, Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

He said new modules would be introduced to replace some of the existing training courses which were no longer relevant to present needs.

Among the new courses to be introduced are related to hi-tech, automotive and manufacturing sectors, he told reporters after launching the state-level premier leadership convention in Semerak, near here.

He said courses offered over the past 10 years like welding, engineering, photography and tailoring would be shortened to accommodate the new modules.

Courses at certificate level which take up two years will be shortened without affecting the training quality, he said.

Some 3,000 skilled trainees are graduating annually from the eight skills training institutes in the country, he said.

Muhyiddin said nine more such institutes would be set up including in Kelantan, Sabah and Sarawak under the Seventh Malaysia Plan to increase the output of skilled youths to 10,000 a year.

He said RM170 million has been allocated for the purpose while another RM60 million has been set aside for upgrading of equipment at existing institutes.

In his speech, Muhyiddin said his ministry would launch a special leadership programme to train potential youth leaders.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to launch the first phase of the programme involving about 800 participants in August.

Some 400 youths would be trained under the second phase, he added. --
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