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HMs declare support for, loyalty to Dr M

IPOH, Fri. - The Fourth Education Management Convention and the Federation of Malaysian Headmasters' Council delegates conference today passed an emergency resolution to unanimously declare its loyalty and undivided support to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's leadership.

The resolution also expressed confidence and faith in Dr Mahathir's ability to overcome the current economic problems and to maintain political stability.

FMHC president Muhammad Mustapha said today the resolution would be handed over to Dr Mahathir within the next few days. He said the resolution was also endorsed by 7,000 headmasters nationwide who supported Dr Mahathir's leadership whole-heartedly.

Speaking after the closing of the conference, Muhammad said the federation planned to hold a series of meetings among State-level FMHCs to pass on the resolution to all headmasters.

He said 35 executive council members and seven officers from the federation would organise the series of meetings to declare the federation's stand.

The three-day conference, which was attended by 221 headmasters and their representatives, was closed by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib.

Muhammad said the conference also passed six other resolutions which included supporting the Government's move to extend the retirement age of civil servants to 60 and for the Education Ministry to take stern action against students involved in "gangsterism".

The first resolution passed appeals to the Ministry to study the appointment of headmasters who are Grade DG3 or graduates.

Many current headmasters are Grade DG 5 and 4 who are not graduates.

He said the Ministry should study the pros and cons of appointing graduates as headmasters as it could affect the current structure where existing headmasters are not graduates.

Muhammad, however, assured that headmasters of Grade DG4 and 5 would remain in their position and the appointment of Grade DG3 headmasters would only be for new headmasters and vacant positions.

The second resolution voiced the federation's disappointment with the accusation that 70 per cent of headmasters did not teach.

Muhammad said this was not true as was revealed in a study carried out by the federation that most headmasters taught certain subjects, especially in schools where there was a shortage of teachers.

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