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1,300 extras needed for 'Anna and The King'

PENANG, Thurs. - Malaysians aspiring to act in a Hollywood film stand a chance to do so because about 1,300 extras are needed for the shooting of the film Anna and The King.

Part of the shooting will be done in Penang from March 1 to 11. A casting interview is being conducted at City Hall from Jan 14 to 30 between 9am and 8pm.

Mahathir Tahir, a spokesman for the producer's local representative, Farang Films Ltd, said extras of all races, aged from three to 60, would be paid RM100 each daily.

Speaking at a Press conference at Komtar yesterday, he said a special counter at Level 3 in Komtar would be opened from tomorrow till Jan 30 to interview those interested.

The film, featuring Jodie Foster and Chow Yuen Fatt, is based on the 1950s classic starring Yul Brynner. It depicts the life of an English tutor in the court of King Rama IV of Thailand.

The 13-week shooting will be done in several parts of Perak and Penang.

Thailand's National Film Board last month refused Fox approval to make the remake deeming it as not showing enough respect to the revered Thai monarchy.

The original film was banned in Thailand for offending Thai sensitivities.

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