

30 SEP 1999

Najib-Teachers

REFRAIN FROM POLITICKING IN SCHOOLS, SAYS NAJIB

KOTA BAHARU, Sept 30 (Bernama) -- Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today that disciplinary action could be taken against teachers politicking in schools for breach of teaching ethics.

He said that schools were places for learning and inculcation of noble values.

Speaking to reporters after opening a seminar on professionalism of school principals and the 16th annual general meeting of the Kelantan Principals Council, here, he said that the government had repeatedly reminded teachers to refrain from politicking in schools but a small number was still involved.

Najib also said that the PAS-led Kelantan government had failed to create adequate job opportunities for graduands from the state.

"There are so many students from Kelantan in local universities but on graduation they cannot work in their own state because of the limited job opportunities," he said.

Najib, who is Umno vice president, also said that people in the country need not seek the intervention of foreigners to achieve their objectives.

"If they are really gentlemen, they need not ask for outside assistance but contest in the election and allow the people to determine their fate," he said.

Foreign countries also should not interfere as the present government had been elected by the people, he said.

Earlier in his speech, Najib said that his ministry was studying a proposal by the National College-Trained Teachers Association that the number of students in a classroom should be limited to 35 and two sessions should be conducted for schools with an enrolment of between 1,000 and 1,500.

Meanwhile, the president of the council, Muhammad Mustapha, said that principals found to support the opposition should be demoted.

The council also expressed support for the government led by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

A total of 405 primary school principals in the state attended the seminar.

-- BERNAMA

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