

26 OCT 1999

Teacher-Transfer

SMK JABI MATHS TEACHER ON TEMPORARY TRANSFER

ALOR SETAR, Oct 26 (Bernama) -- The Kedah Education Department today issued a directive to a mathematics teacher of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Jabi, Pokok Sena to be transferred to another school as an initial measure, before further action is taken by the Education Ministry.

Its Director, Hassan Hashim said the teacher was directed to be transferred to Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Kubang Rotan, Kuala Kedah near here effective Nov 1.

"Meanwhile, the teacher is still on leave since Sunday following the controversy over his case," he told reporters at his office here.

The teacher, as exposed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently, was found to have used the names of several national leaders which were adapted to refer to the leaders in a mathematics examination paper.

Among the names used in the examination papers were "Det", "Daim", "Mirzan", "Zani", "Umihalf", "Rafida", "Patail", "Eric", "Chia" and "Tingpeking". The question also mentioned "mahligai" and "khadam" referring to the Prime Minister's official residence in Putrajaya which was described by the opposition as "Mahligai PM".

The teacher concerned had been allowed to take leave at the moment as he no longer felt comfortable to teach at the school following the criticisms from various quarters including parents and the pupils themselves, Hassan said.

At the same time, he said, the department had also submitted a report to the ministry for purposes of taking disciplinary action against the teacher concerned.

"We have to prepare a complete report and charge and the process may take a long time just like court proceedings," he said.

He said the teacher had committed an offence by asimilating political elements in his teaching methods although he had been a dedicated and diligent teacher in the past.

Yesterday, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn confirmed in Melaka that the teacher had been transferred but declined to name the school where he was being transferred to.

-- BERNAMA

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