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MALAY STUDENT BODY DENIES TRYING TO CONTROL INSTITUTIONS

KUALA TERENGGANU, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- The Peninsula Malay Students Federation (GPMS) denied today that it is seeking to control educational institutions in the country through several politicians in the Education Ministry.

GPMS secretary-general Syed Anuar Syed Mohamad said the federation had never allowed itself to be made use of by anybody for political puposes because it kept strictly to its role of struggling for the welfare of Malay students.

"We strongly deny the allegation that we want to control the Education Ministry....that's not true at all," he said.

Syed Anuar was commenting on a claim posted on the Reformasi website that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had directed several politicians in the ministry including deputy minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin and parliamentary secretary Dr Mahadzir Mohamed Khir to use GPMS to control educational institutions.

The GPMS leader said some of the politicians in the ministry were strong supporters of GPMS but that did not mean the federation was trying to dominate the institutions.

He called on the over 200,000 members of the federation not to be influenced by the claim "made by irresponsible groups to tarnish GPMS' image".

-- BERNAMA

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