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# 'Develop young minds, not divert them'

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri: Lecturers must concentrate on developing the minds of the young and not divert them to negative activities.

Universiti Malaya vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Anuar Zaini Mohd Zain said once the lecturers start diluting the students' minds with other thoughts, there will be diversion.

"They (students) have a short time on campus... only three years. They have to

concentrate on their studies," he told reporters after launching the Rain Forest for Health exhibition at UM's Rimba Ilmu today.

He was commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's recent statement that university lecturers and students will be required to sign an agreement with the government under which any one who fails to perform may be sacked.

Supporting the move, Anuar Zaini said the academic staff must understand their responsibilities as the students pass through their hands.

As for the students, he said that they have been reminded of their responsibilities in the university is to learn and develop a culture of acquiring knowledge.

On the tendency among students to engage in matters pertaining to govern-

ment policy, he said there are positive and negative sides to everything.

He said it is up to the wisdom of the lecturers to guide students on how to find ways to balance between positive and negative aspects.

As for the two UM students charged in a magistrate's court yesterday with illegal assembly, Anuar Zaini said the decision whether or not to expel them will be made known soon.