

10/08/2001

Kedah to act firmly against errant students

ALOR STAR, Thurs. - The Kedah State Government would no longer take the soft approach of advising or explaining things to students involved in anti-Government activities, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain said.

"It's time to act.

"I feel it's a waste of time trying to explain or advise them (those involved in anti-Government activities).

"What we need to do is discipline them as we are running out of time."

Syed Razak said the State Government would withdraw financial aid given to students, especially those on Government scholarships, who had turned anti-establishment.

There are about 80 students from Kedah on State Government scholarship studying abroad, especially in the Middle East.

The Menteri Besar added the scholarship board would monitor their involvement in political activities and action would be taken if it was proven they did not concentrate on their studies.

He said this after the ground-breaking ceremony of the proposed RM30 million building to be developed jointly by the Kedah Farmers Organisation and the Employees Provident Fund.

Also present was EPF chairman Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali.

On Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's announcement that meritocracy would be introduced gradually for university admission among Malay students, Syed Razak said:

"I support the move ... it is long overdue".

(END)