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New ruling to enter varsity (HL)

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LANGKAWI, Sun. - A new condition may be imposed on students seeking entry into the universities to ensure that they concentrate on their studies, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

"Maybe in the future, we will only select students who really want to study.

"We want to impose a condition for those entering the universities that if they do not concentrate on their studies, they will be expelled," the Prime Minister said when asked to comment on the tendency of some students to deviate from their studies.

Dr Mahathir said students would be warned upon entry that they would be expelled if they took part in activities which may be counter-productive to them and the country.

Dr Mahathir said the Government was considering introducing new conditions to ensure that undergraduates concentrate on studies.

He said this when asked to comment on what is perceived to be increasing problems of student activists in campuses. Last week, two student activists were arrested under the Internal Security Act.

He expressed disappointment that some undergraduates, particularly Malays, were not bothered about their studies anymore.

Instead, they consider the university as a centre for them to rally students against the Government.

"Some Malay students enter universities not to study but to get involved in anti-Government politics," he told reporters after visiting several development projects here.

"They can go against the Government, but we have now found that their activities have gone overboard and have become a threat to national security."

Dr Mahathir said those who get involved in anti-Government activities could not care less about the huge amount of money the Government was spending on them. "So, what is the purpose of us spending a lot of money if they do not want to study?".

On Friday, Universiti Malaya Students Representative Council president Mohamad Fuad Mohamed Ikhwan, 22, was arrested by the Special Branch under section 73(1) of the ISA, 1960.

His arrest came barely 48 hours after Mara Vocational Institute engineering student Kairul Annuar Ahmad Zainuddin, 24, was taken in by police to assist in investigations into activities detrimental to national security.