

# 45 **Mara** students to get places in German varsities

KUALA LUMPUR: Forty-five **Mara** students who are receiving technical training under the German-Malaysian Institute (GMI) programme here have been assured of university placings in the automotive engineering departments in Bavaria, Germany, said Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Nazri Abdul Aziz yesterday.

"They have agreed to place our students in their technical universities for two years, and also provide practical training in automotive companies like Daimler-Chrysler during the course of their studies," said Nazri during the GMI charity run in Dataran Merdeka.

The move follows an agreement signed in Munich on March 19 during Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's recent three-day official visit to Germany.

The students will, however, have to take up a preparatory German language course to help them assimilate into the German environment.

German Ambassador to Malaysia Juergen Staks said German-Malaysian ties would be strengthened further with Malaysian students taking up higher learning courses in Germany.

"In this way, they can understand better, not only the working culture of the Germans but also their way of life," said Staks.

Staks who was in the entourage during Dr Mahathir's visit to Berlin and Munich lauded his efforts in establishing a shift to Germany to seek collaboration in higher education especially in their most recognised field — technical and automotive engineering.

**STAR** - 1 APR 2002