

29/10/2002

`National service can control job-hopping'

PENANG, Mon. - National service, proposed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, will help control job-hopping and reduce manpower turnover in multi-national corporations (MNCs) and local big companies.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said today that if implemented, the programme would nurture loyalty among the workers, especially the younger ones, besides cultivating patriotism and nationalism towards the country.

Koh said MNCs and local companies were now facing high manpower turnover which, he added, was not a healthy trend as it allowed frequent job-hopping by workers looking for higher perks.

"But all this can be avoided by nurturing workers' loyalty to their companies," he said after officiating at the Penang Development Corporation's annual Deepavali Day function in Bayan Baru here today.

Koh said MNCs and big companies could reduce the Government's financial burden by organising the national service programme for their workers within their premises.

"Companies should set up a platoon of army and police cadets, and even the fire brigade, and get trainers from the relevant agencies," he said.