

**Cabinet Approves Rebranding Of Mara High Skill College**  
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**From Mohd Hisham Abdul Rafar**

TOKYO, Sept 21 (Bernama) -- The Cabinet has, on Wednesday, approved the rebranding of Mara High Skill College in Beranang, Selangor as Mara-Japan Industrial Institute (MJII).

Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal, when announcing the matter, said that it was an initiative that would benefit the country.

"I'm confident that the rebranding of the college will help us to be more focus in increasing cooperation with the Japanese government and Japanese companies, especially those operating in Malaysia," he told the Malaysian press here on Friday.

Mohd Shafie is in Japan for a five-day working visit which began yesterday.

He said the investment between Malaysia and Japan in education sector was valued at about RM880 million.

At present, approximately 900 Mara-sponsored students are pursuing their studies in industrial technology in Japan, he said.

Earlier, the minister also paid a courtesy call on the president of the Organisation for Industrial Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA) International, Datuk Yoshiko Nakano, before meeting with the representatives of Japanese private universities here.

Among the matters discussed during the meeting were efforts to develop people in rural areas and the possibilities for the universities to forge cooperation with Mara Education Foundation.

"I also held a discussion with the fashion industry players here. We know that the fashion industry turnover can reach billions of dollar, but it depends on the policies and approaches adopted by our country," he said.

Present was Mara director-general Datuk Ibrahim Ahmad.

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