

Malaysia ranks 9th destination of choice for further studies, says minister – Bernama
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Malaysia is now ranked the ninth destination of choice in the world for international students to continue their studies.

Second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh said this proved that the education system in the country was of quality and on par with other developed countries.

"Our university ranking is also better. In terms of faculty, 11 faculties are among the world's top 100, like Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), which is ranked 28th for its Faculty of Environmental Science, Agriculture Faculty at Universiti Putra Malaysia, at 54th place and Engineering Faculty Universiti Malaya, at 83rd place.

"Hence, it is not surprising the response obtained from 135,000 foreign students places us at world's number nine as the destination of choice to further their studies," he said after opening the National Higher Education Carnival here today.

Idris said besides quality education, another pull factor for international students to come to study in Malaysia was the low cost.

"Not only students from China, other Asian countries or Indonesia, but also from Australia and Germany who come to study at our institutions of higher learning, like Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)," he added.

In another development, Idris said the action by certain quarters in playing up the issue of non-Muslim students prohibited from practising their religious faith at the Mara Junior Science College (MRSM) was a propaganda to tarnish the government's image.

He said it was aimed at creating tension, especially with the issue becoming viral on social media.

He said students at MRSM were free to practice their religious faith, but that they should not go overboard, like wearing huge religious symbols. – Bernama, February 14, 2015.

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