

## **Laos Wants Malaysia to Assist Improve Its Education System**

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**By Azeman Ariffin**

BANDUNG, April 28 (Bernama) -- The government of the Republic of Laos wants Malaysia to help improve the quality of its education system, especially in vocational and technical education.

Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said the request was made by Laos' Education and Sports Minister, Dr Koongsy Sengmany in a meeting this morning.

He said the Laos government viewed Malaysia as a nation which had succeeded in transforming Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) and wanted to share the experience with his country.

"They want us to train their teachers, and have student exchange (programmes) especially in technical and vocational training," he told Malaysian reporters after attending the 2nd Strategic Dialogue of Education Minister (SDEM), Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (Seameo) here today.

He said the ministry was willing to help and the request would be studied and discussed further at the level of officials of both countries soon.

About 100 officials of education ministries and the ministers from Southeast Asian countries attended the forum aimed at expanding the education agenda.

Malaysia was represented by Mahdzir at the one-day forum which was jointly officiated by Indonesian Education and Culture Minister Dr Anies Baswedan and Thailand Education Minister who is also the President of the Dialogue Council, Rapong Ratanusawang.

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