

Training scheme for 12,000 teachers

BEATING SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED STAFF

KOTA BARU, Sun. — About 12,000 temporary teachers will be given professional training to cope with the current shortage of trained teachers, Education Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said here today.

Speaking to newsmen after a briefing by the State Director of Education, Mr. Saw Chee Ling, the Minister said he had already directed the training division of his Ministry to carry out the training programme as soon as possible.

He said in giving training to these teachers, the Ministry will have to face the problem of finding lecturers and buildings to conduct courses.

Replacement

There are about 748 attachment teachers in Kelantan employed to overcome the shortage of teachers.

Dr. Mahathir added that about 150 schools in rural areas needed immediate replacement as the conditions of the schools were unsatisfactory.

He said out of \$27 million allocated for the development of education in Kelantan under the Second Malaysia Plan, about \$19 million has been spent.

He added that only 35 per cent of the projects have been completed because of land acquisition and other problems.

During his visit, Dr. Mahathir was received by the Sultan at the Istana Kota Lama, and met the Mentri Besar, Datuk Haji Mohammad bin Nasir, at his office. He also visited several schools.