

67:
MAHATHIR
BM

PONTIAN KECIL, FEB. 9 (BERNAMA) — EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED TODAY PROMISED GREATER ATTENTION FOR RURAL SCHOOLS TODAY TO IMPROVE THEIR POSITION.

HOWEVER, THE MATTER WOULD HINGE ON SEVERAL VITAL FACTORS, HE SAID AFTER VISITING FOUR RURAL SCHOOLS IN THE PONTIAN KECIL DISTRICT.

+IT IS RATHER IMPOSSIBLE TO PLACE A VERY QUALIFIED TEACHER IN A SCHOOL WITH A SMALL ENROLMENT,+ HE ADDED.

HE CITED LACK OF FUNDS AS THE MAIN PROBLEM IN IMPLEMENTING ANY PROGRAMME INCLUDING HOSTELS AND FREE FOOD FOR POOR PUPILS.

ON THE GREEN BOOK PLAN, DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE HAD DIRECTED ALL SCHOOLS TO TRAIN THEIR STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SKILLS.

HE SAID THE SCHOOL SHOULD BE USED SOLELY AS A TRAINING GROUND FOR THIS PURPOSE AND NOT FOR COMPETING WITH OTHERS IN MARKETING THEIR PRODUCE. — BERNAMA 1647/LK