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PARLIAMENT - SCHOOL

KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 1 (BERNAMA) - THE SARAWAK EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING MORE SCHOOLS AND EXTENSIONS IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING MORNING AND AFTERNOON CLASSES IN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS.

EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD START CLASSES IN TEMPORARY BUILDINGS AND PROVIDE TEMPORARY BOARDING FACILITIES IN THE RURAL AREAS.

REPLYING TO THE SNAP MP FOR BINTULU, ENCIK TING LING KIEW, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE STEPS WERE TAKEN TO MEET THE NEED FOR CLASSROOMS AND BOARDING FACILITIES.

HE SAID THAT HIS MINISTRY HAD ALSO TAKEN REMEDIAL MEASURES TO OVERCOME THE SHORTAGE OF BAHASA MALAYSIA TEACHERS IN SARAWAK.

THESE INCLUDED SENDING MORE BAHASA TEACHERS FROM PENINSULAR MALAYSIA TO SARAWAK AND CONDUCTING BAHASA MALAYSIA COURSES AT THE BATU LINTANG AND REJANG TEACHERS COLLEGES.

IN ADDITION, THE MINISTRY WAS ALSO CONDUCTING IN-SERVICE BAHASA MALAYSIA COURSES FOR SERVING TEACHERS AND AN EXCHANGE OF SUCH LECTURERS TO TEACH AT THE TWO TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGES.

FOUR LECTURERS HAD ALREADY BEEN SENT THERE AND WERE PRESENTLY TEACHING BAHASA MALAYSIA AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION. -  
BERNAMA MORE 1710/BW

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DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THERE WAS NO ACTUAL SHORTAGE OF TEXTBOOKS IN THE MARKET.

HE SAID THERE MIGHT BE DELAY IN THE DELIVERY AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE BOOKS DUE TO TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS.

HE ADDED THAT ALMOST ALL THE PUPILS IN SARAWAK HAD NOW RECEIVED THEIR TEXTBOOKS.

HIS MINISTRY WAS TAKING MEASURES TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF DELAYS IN FUTURE. -- BERNAMA 1710/YF