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SENATE-TAMIL
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, APR 18 (BERNAMA) -- THE EDUCATION MINISTRY IS CARRYING OUT SEVERAL PROGRAMMES TO OVECOME THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY STUDENTS OF TAMIL SCHOOLS.

P THE MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, TOLD THE DEWAN NEGARA ONE OF THE WAYS WAS TO MERGE ALL THE SMALL SCHOOLS IN NEW AREAS OR WITH LARGER ONES NEARBY WHERE BETTER TEACHING FACILITIES WERE AVAILABLE.

REPLYING TO T.S. GABRIEL, DR. MAHATHIR SAID ANOTHER MEASURE WAS THE TEXTBOOK AID SCHEME WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN TAMIL SCHOOL IN LAST YEAR.

TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STANDARDS IN SCHOOLS, HEADTEACHERS AND TEACHERS OF TAMIL SCHOOLS WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND COURSES AT STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS.

TEMPORARY TEACHERS WERE GIVEN PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND PERMANENT TEACHERS IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO IMPROVE THEIR TEACHING KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNIQUES.

REPLYING TO ANOTHER QUESTION FROM THE SAME SENATOR, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE MINISTRY WAS ALSO STUDYING THE WAYS TO PROVIDE BETTER PHYSICAL FACILITIES TO SCHOOLS WHICH COULD NOT BE MERGED.

THE RATIO OF HEADTEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN TAMIL SCHOOLS WAS ALSO BEING REVIEWED. -- BERNAMA 1727/AZ