

50:
SCHOOLS
BM

178

LIMBANG, APRIL 28 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO SET UP MORE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN SARAWAK TO ACCOMMODATE AN EXPECTED INFLUX OF PUPILS FOLLOWING THE ABOLITION OF THE STANDARD SIX EXAMINATION.

EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SPEND \$1.2 MILLION ON EXPANSION OF SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT INCLUDING EXPANDING THE LIMBANG GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

HOWEVER ALL THESE EFFORTS WOULD HAVE NO MEANING IF PARENTS DID NOT ENCOURAGE THEIR CHILDREN TO GO TO SCHOOL, HE ADDED AT A MEETING WITH PARENTS AT THE BAKALALAN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE FIFTH DIVISION YESTERDAY.

HE DISCLOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL AT TRUSAN.

EFFORTS TO GET A SITE FOR THE SCHOOL WERE BEING CARRIED OUT. ---
BERNAMA MORE 1545/LK

52:
SCHOOLS 2 LIMBING

MEANWHILE AT SIBU, DR. MAHATHIR SAID ABOUT \$41 MILLION WOULD HAVE BEEN SPENT TO CONSTRUCT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN SARAWAK BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

BY THEN A TOTAL OF 411 CLASSROOMS, 17 HOSTELS, 203 UNITS OF TEACHERS' QUARTERS, 93 SCIENCE BLOCKS AND 18 WORKSHOPS WOULD BE BUILT, HE ADDED WHEN OPENING THE \$1.06 MILLION SIBU GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL THERE.

THE SCHOOL WHICH WAS RENAMED THE ROSLI DHOBI SECONDARY SCHOOL AFTER A RENOWNED SARAWAK NATIONAL OF THE LATE 1940'S CAN ACCOMMODATE 760 JUNIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS.

THE MINISTER SAID IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING ENROLMENT ANNUALLY THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN POSITIVE STEPS TO BUILD MORE SCHOOLS ESPECIALLY IN THE RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE.

UNDER THE COMING THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN MORE SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND JUNIOR COLLEGES WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED WHILE THE EXISTING SCHOOLS WOULD BE EXPANDED. ---BERNAMA MORE 1601/MD

53:
SCHOOLS 3 LIMBANG

THE GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO HAVE 30 MORE NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN SARAWAK UNDER THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHILE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY EDUCATION WOULD BE INTENSIFIED.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE OF THE PROBLEM BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE INCREASING NUMBER OF STUDENTS ESPECIALLY WITH THE ABOLITION OF THE COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

HOWEVER STEPS SUCH AS THE INTRODUCTION OF TWO SESSIONS DAILY FOR SCHOOLS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED AS A TEMPORARY MEASURE.

HE SAID THAT THE ROSLI DHOBI SCHOOL WOULD HAVE A STUDENT POPULATION OF 1,000 BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

HE DESCRIBED THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION WAS A +POIN-TER+ FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY.

THE MINISTER, ACCOMPANIED BY STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING MINISTER ENCIK AHMAD ZAIDI AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF EDUCATION TAN SRI HAMDAN SHEIKH TAHIR, WAS SHOWN AROUND THE NEW BUILDING BY THE HEADMASTER ENCIK SHEE FONG YONG. ---BERNAMA 1605/MD

82:

SCHOOLS 4 LIMBANG (RE-OPENS ITEM 53)

SPEAKING AT KUCHING, DR. MAHATHIR SAID MORE SCHOOLS IN SARAWAK SHOULD EXPEDITE THEIR CONVERSION TO THE BAHASA MALAYSIA MEDIUM SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE LEFT OUT OF THE MAINSTREAM OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID ALTHOUGH SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE BY SCHOOLS IN CHANGING TO BAHASA MALAYSIA MEDIUM IN SARAWAK, IT WAS STILL INADEQUATE IN TERMS OF THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT AND USAGE OF BAHASA MALAYSIA IN THE COUNTRY.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS ON ARRIVAL FROM SIBU, DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WOULD NOT SERVE MUCH PURPOSE FOR SCHOOLS IN THE STATE TO CONTINUE BEING ENGLISH-MEDIUM BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS WERE NOT GOING TO REQUIRE THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AS MUCH AS THEY THINK THEY SHOULD.+ -- BERNAMA 1810/A1