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MAHATHIR

BETONG (SARAWAK), APRIL 30 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOCATED MORE THAN \$3.5 MILLION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE SECOND DIVISION THIS YEAR.

OF THIS, MORE THAN \$3.1 MILLION IS FOR EXTENSIONS AND REPAIRS TO EXISTING SCHOOLS.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE EDUCATION MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, AT A MEET-THE-PEOPLE SESSION AT RUMAH BEJI, MATOP, NEAR HERE LAST NIGHT.

THE REST WOULD BE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN SEBUYAU, LUBOK ANTU AND SARATOK, HE SAID.

WITH THE COMPLETION OF THESE SCHOOLS, THERE WOULD BE NINE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE SECOND DIVISION. -- BERNAMA MORE 1755/1B

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MAHATHIR 2 BETONG (SARAWAK)

THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION AT THE SEKOLAH MENENGAH KERAJAAN SARATOK AND SEBUYAU WOULD BE BAHASA MALAYSIA WHILE ENGLISH WOULD BE THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION AT THE SCHOOL IN LUBOK ANTU.

THE MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD INTENSIFY ITS EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE STATE UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN.

EARLIER, ADDRESSING TEACHERS AND PARENTS AT THE SEKOLAH RENDAH KERAJAAN NANGA AJAU, NEAR HERE, HE CALLED ON TEACHERS TO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION.

HE COMMENDED RURAL TEACHERS - WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS PIONEERS IN BRINGING ABOUT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES IN THE RURAL AREAS - FOR THEIR SACRIFICES.

THIS AFTERNOON, DR. MAHATHIR WAS ENTERTAINED TO LUNCH BY THE SARAWAK TEACHERS UNION AND THE SARAWAK NATIVE TEACHERS UNION IN KUCHING. -- BERNAMA 1800/1B

MAHATHIR 3 BETONG (SARAWAK)

HE CALLED ON TEACHERS UNIONS TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS EFFORTS TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR THE +RIGHT TYPES+ OF TEACHERS.

THEY COULD DO THIS BY ORGANISING COURSES AND SEMINARS TO SUPPLEMENT THOSE BY THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT ONLY THROUGH CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL REALISATION OF OBLIGATIONS BY ALL SIDES COULD THE NATION HOPE TO REACH THE EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT IT ENVISAGED.

ON THE ABOLITION OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IN SARAWAK, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO GIVE EVERY PUPIL THE OPPORTUNITY OF ACQUIRING SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.

HE LATER LEFT FOR KUALA LUMPUR. - BERNAMA 1809/LK