

NO30 (F)
MAHATHIR
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 26 (BERNAMA) — DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SUGGESTED TODAY THAT BOOK SELLERS AND PUBLISHERS DEVISE A NETWORK FOR DISTRIBUTING AND SELLING BOOKS TO SMALL TOWNS IN THE RURAL AREAS.

THIS WOULD HELP IMPROVE THE FLOW OF BOOKS TO SUCH AREAS, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND EDUCATION MINISTER SAID.

HE SAID STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS SHOULD ALSO STREAMLINE AND IMPROVE SCHOOL LIBRARY SERVICES, PARTICULARLY IN THE RURAL AREAS.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SHOULD COOPERATE WITH PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN SETTING UP SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN SMALL TOWNS AND KAMPUNGS.

OPENING THE SEMINAR AND EXHIBITION ON CHILDREN'S READING MATERIALS AT THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA HERE, DR. MAHATHIR

CALLED FOR CONTROL TO ENSURE ALL READING MATERIALS, PARTICULARLY FOR CHILDREN WERE, OF AN APPROVED STANDARD.

TOWARDS THIS END, THE NATIONAL BOOK DEVELOPMENT BOARD UNDER THE EDUCATION MINISTRY SHOULD BE REVIVED. — BERNAMA
MORE HM 1325

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HE ALSO CRITICISED SOME PUBLISHERS OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR BEING TOO PROFIT-MOTIVATED.

"I DO NOT DENY THAT COMMERCIAL MOTIVES ARE IMPORTANT, BUT THEY SHOULD NOT BE MADE THE PRIMARY CONSIDERATIONS TO THE DETRIMENT OF ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS."

ON THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN'S PUBLICATIONS IN THE COUNTRY, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FELT IT HAD A

GOOD FUTURE IN VIEW OF THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLCHILDREN. THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN MEASURES TO DEVELOP THE READING SECTOR BY PROVIDING MORE COURSES FOR TEACHERS AS LIBRARY SUPERVISORS.

LAST YEAR THE EDUCATION MINISTRY SPENT \$3.9 MILLION ON SCHOOL LIBRARIES, \$2.8 MILLION OF WHICH WENT TO PRIMARY SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

HE ALSO SAID WRITING AND PUBLISHING BOOKS FOR CHILDREN WERE MORE DIFFICULT THAN FOR THE ADULTS. — BERNAMA MORE HM 1330

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ILLUSTRATIONS PLAYED A BIG PART IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS. WRITERS AND ARTISTS HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PROPER LANGUAGE, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL APPROACH TO USE.

THE SEMINAR AMONG OTHERS WOULD FOCUS ATTENTION ON WRITING AND TECHNIQUES OF PRODUCING READING MATERIALS FOR CHILDREN.

TWO WORKING PAPERS ARE PRESENTED AT THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE NATIONAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION OR PERA AND THE RAIHAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA.

MEANWHILE THE TITIWANGSA PUBLISHERS TOOK THE FIRST PRIZE IN THE CHILDREN'S NOVELS COMPETITION ORGANISED BY PERA. SECOND WAS THE UTUSAN MELAYU AND THIRD THE PAJAR BAKTI PUBLICATIONS.

THE ANTHONIAN STORE WAS FIRST WINNER IN THE PICTURES SECTION. SECOND WAS THE NUSANTARA AND THIRD THE UTUSAN MELAYU PUBLISHERS. — BERNAMA HM 1334