

N121:
MAHATHIR
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76 (2)
KULIM, AUG. 24 (BERNAMA) -- TEXT-BOOKS WILL BE ALSO LENT TO PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS, FORMERLY KNOWN AS NATIONAL TYPE (ENGLISH) SCHOOLS, FROM NEXT YEAR, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED ANNOUNCED TODAY.

NEXT YEAR, THE EDUCATION MINISTRY WOULD LEND THE BOOKS TO PUPILS IN STANDARDS TWO AND THREE IN THESE SCHOOLS, HE ADDED.

TEXT-BOOK LOANS FOR PUPILS IN STANDARDS FOUR, FIVE AND SIX WOULD BE GIVEN FROM 1978, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE \$211,000 EXTENSION TO THE SEKOLAH RENDAH KEBANGSAAN SIDAM KIRI, 16 MILES FROM HERE.

EARLIER, DR. MAHATHIR OPENED THE \$242,000 SIDAM BRIDGE NEAR THE SCHOOL.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT HITHERTO BOOKS WERE ONLY LENT TO PUPILS IN NATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1838/ZCM

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THE LOAN SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED TO REDUCE THE BURDEN ON PARENTS, AND TO LOWER THE PRICES AND MAINTAIN THE STANDARD OF THE BOOKS.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS WERE INADEQUATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.

PARENTS SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT THEIR SCHOOL-GOING CHILDREN REVISED THEIR SCHOOL WORK AT HOME, HE SAID.

DR. MAHATHIR ADDED THAT PARENTS SHOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT THEIR CHILDREN WERE NOT CARELESS IN THEIR HOMEWORK, AND DID NOT WASTE THEIR TIME MIXING WITH UNDESIRABLE PERSONS. 213

ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER, THESE EFFORTS ALONE WERE INSUFFICIENT TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN STUDIES. -- BERNAMA MORE 1840/ZCM

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE OBJECTIVE OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT ONLY BE TO MAKE THE PUPILS PASS THEIR EXAMINATIONS BUT ALSO TO TRAIN THEM TO BE DISCIPLINED, RESPONSIBLE AND OF GOOD BEHAVIOUR.

EMPHASIS SHOULD ALSO BE PLACED ON EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES TO ENABLE PUPILS TO DEVELOP SPIRITUALLY, HE ADDED.

EARLIER, ACTING MENTRI BESAR HAJI MOHAMED MUSLIM BIN HAJI OTHMAN SAID THAT \$36 MILLION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RURAL ROADS UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN.

THE RADS WOULD ASSIST THE RURAL POPULACE TO TRANSPORT THEIR AGRICULTURAL GOODS TO THE TOWNS FOR SALE, HE ADDED.

HAJI MOHAMED MUSLIM ALSO SAID THAT THE KEDAH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ALLOCATED \$42.1 MILLION FOR SEVERAL EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS UNDER THE PLAN.

THIS INCLUDES PUTTING UP 39 PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND 76 EXTENSION BUILDINGS TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

DR. MAHATHIR ARRIVED IN ALOR STAR THIS MORNING FOR THE DAY'S VISIT TO KULIM AND SUNGAI BETANI. BERNAMA MORE 1840/ZCM