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PASIR MAS, FEB. 20^(P) (BERNAMA) -- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TODAY PAPER QUALIFICATIONS ALONE ARE NO GUARANTEE OF A PERSON'S SUCCESS IN HIS WORK.

HE SAID THERE WERE STILL MANY PEOPLE WHO PLACED AN UNDULY HIGH VALUE ON PAPER QUALIFICATIONS.

ALTHOUGH A CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE WAS OF VALUE IN ITSELF, IT WAS NOT A GUARANTEE THAT THE HOLDER COULD CARRY OUT HIS DUTIES SUCCESSFULLY.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO EDUCATION MINISTER, HOWEVER SAID THAT THE HOLDER OF CERTIFICATES OR DEGREES HAD A GREATER POTENTIAL OF CARRYING OUT HIS JOB WITH MORE SUCCESS.

HE SAID THIS AT A CEREMONY TO INAUGURATE THE EXTENSION BUILDING OF THE TENDONG NATIONAL SCHOOL HERE AND TO RENAME IT THE OTHMAN TALIB NATIONAL SCHOOL.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SPEND MORE ON EDUCATION NOT JUST ONLY TO PROVIDE CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES BUT ALSO TO UPGRADE THE STANDARD. -- BERNAMA MORE 1825/A1

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HE SAID THE BIGGER ALLOCATION WAS IMPORTANT TO MEET THE DEMAND WHICH WAS INCREASING EVERY YEAR AT THE LOWER, SECONDARY, TERTIARY AND UNIVERSITY LEVELS.

HE SAID FOR KELANTAN ALONE, A TOTAL OF \$30.4 MILLION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 87 PRIMARY SCHOOLS, 31 SECONDARY SCHOOLS, FIVE HOSTELS AND NINE TEACHERS' QUARTERS.

APART FROM THAT, ANOTHER SCIENCE SECONDARY SCHOOL AND AN AGRICULTURAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL HAD ALSO BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PLAN.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS WOULD GIVE STUDENTS IN THE STATE MORE FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF GETTING A SCIENCE OR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIMARY STUDENTS HAVING A REASONABLE LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY IN READING, WRITING AND ARITHMATICS BEFORE GOING TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1857/A1

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HE SAID, THIS COULD BE DONE IF THE TEACHERS PAID MORE ATTENTION TO THE MATTER AND THE PARENTS SHOWED MORE CONCERN TO THE PROGRESS OF THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.

EARLIER, MENTRI BESAR DATUK HAJI MOHAMAD BIN NASIR SAID A TOTAL OF \$35 MILLION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

HE SAID THE MAIN PROBLEM FACED BY THE STATE WAS THE LACK OF SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS.

DATUK HAJI MOHAMAD SUGGESTED THAT A POLYTECHNICAL SCHOOL BE BUILT IN KELANTAN TO PRODUCE TECHNICAL MANPOWER FOR THE STATE. -- BERNAMA 1859/A1