

MAHATHIR-TEACHERS & SANDAKAN (REOPENS ITEM NO80)

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CHIEF MINISTER DATUK HARRIS SALLEH SAID FROM THIS YEAR THE EDUCATION MINISTRY HAD TAKEN OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS AND TRAINING OF RELIGIOUS TEACHERS IN SARAH.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THESE SCHOOLS HAD BEEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SARAH ISLAMIC COUNCIL IN THE PAST.

THANKING THE MINISTRY, DATUK HARRIS SAID THERE WAS A LACK OF TRAINED RELIGIOUS TEACHERS IN THE STATE. WITH THE TAKE-OVER IT WAS HOPED THAT MORE RELIGIOUS TEACHERS WOULD BECOME AVAILABLE.

HE SAID A NATIONAL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL WOULD BE BUILT IN MENGGATAL, NINE MILES FROM KOTA KINABALU, AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMME TO OVERCOME THE SHORTAGE.

LATER, DR. SITI HASMAH, WIFE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO 80 GRADUATES OF THE TRAINING COLLEGE HERE.

DR. MAHATHIR AND HIS PARTY WERE ENTERTAINED TO A CULTURAL SHOW PUT UP BY THE STUDENTS. -- BERNAMA 1801/LK