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Hamid-Social

ISLAMIC EDUCATION APPROACH TO BE REVAMPED

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 27 (Bernama) -- The Islamic education curriculum will be revamped soon to make it more effective in fighting the social ills among the Muslim youth.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Abdul Hamid Othman said this was decided at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee to Combat Social Ills chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim this morning.

Pusat Islam would hold a meeting after the puasa month to discuss ways inculcate good character and resilience among the students, he told reporters after breaking fast with orphans at the Darul Kifayah Complex, here, tonight.

He said the new approach would focus on the dakwah (missionary) approach in Islamic information and education and informal education for the community and adults.

Besides this, the Islamic Development Department in the Prime Minister's Department would cooperate with the Education Ministry in allocating Quranic and fardhu ain (religious obligations) classes in schools.

Dr Abdul Hamid said he was confident that the new approach would succeed with help from parents to inculcate Islamic values and resilience in their children.

Under the current education system, although a student might achieve satisfactory result in Islam as an examination subject, it did not reflect his resolve in appreciating the religion, he said.

The meeting, attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, identified the lack of resilience in the youth as one of the causes of the social ills like punk, bohsia, lepak and drug abuse among them.

Dr Abdul Hamid said the youth must be swayed from the western thinking which gave priority to individual rights to Islamic understanding which recognised the individual rights as well as the rights of the society vis-a-vis the individual.

He said the relevant departments and the Education Ministry which has over 52,000 Islamic religious teachers would work hard to use the dakwah approach in formal and informal Islamic education to achieve the objective.

-- BERNAMA

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