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Najib: Anak Sains Mara can help rural students choose right careers

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today Anak Sains Mara could help provide information on career guidance, especially in science and technology.

Its contribution, he said, would open new doors in the minds of secondary school students in the rural areas, when they reached the stage of choosing their careers.

"It appears that secondary school students in rural areas are not well-informed on the numerous career opportunities that are available to youths today," Najib said at his ministry today after receiving video tapes on career guidance by Anak Sains Mara (Ansara) president Mukhriz Mahathir.

The 10-series career guidance tapes on 20 professional careers, especially in the field of science and technology, will be given to 400 schools, especially in the rural areas.

Najib hoped more such bodies and non-governmental organisations will come forward to play their part in providing secondary school students with information to help them choose the right careers.

"Although Ansara is an association comprising school leavers from Mara Junior Science College, the association, however, is magnanimous enough to extend its contribution to other schools, particularly Government schools," he said.

However, Najib added it was not enough to rely on video tapes only.

The tapes, he said, would supplement existing facilities on career guidance.

"We have a career guidance counsellor in almost every school now, and by the end of the year there will be more enjoying this benefit. And in the bigger schools, we will have two counsellors."

Mukhriz said the tapes would help provide information to secondary school students on career opportunities available in the country.

It would also help them choose the right career, he added.

"This is in line with the Government's manpower development policy, which is focused on the field of science."

He added that Ansara would get feedback from the 400 schools using the video tapes before informing students of more career opportunities.

Mukhriz later handed over the tapes to Najib.

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