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Bid to raise English level in Felda areas

reports on "Negri Sembilan State Assembly" by Patrick Sennyah
A SPECIAL teacher support team has been suggested for Felda settlements in the State to increase the standard of English among the residents.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad said though the level of English among residents in the settlements had improved, much could still be done.

However, he said the responsibility should not only rest on teachers and urged parents to play their role.

"Since families in these settlements live close to each other, they could co-operate in terms of buying English books where each family buys one and exchange it with the others," he said.

Winding up the debate on the opening speech by the Regent of Negri Sembilan Tunku Naquiyuddin Tuanku Ja'afar, he said the reading habit must be inculcated at a young age and parents should be the ones to start this habit.

He was replying to issues on the standard of English in the State raised by Abdul Razak Mansor (BN-Pertang) and Kamaruddin Mohamad Din (BN-Palong) on the third day of the State Assembly sitting.

On pollution caused by the increasing number of factories in Nilai raised by Peter Lai Yit Fee (BN-Nilai), Mohamad Isa said he had asked State Environment Committee chairman Datuk Dr Yeow Chai Thiam to check on the matter.

He said the State Department of Environment had also conducted their investigations and had detected the factories responsible for improper waste disposal.

Mohamad Isa also told the State Assembly to maintain their trust and confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said they should continue with briefing sessions with the people and work towards maintaining their trust in the present leadership.

He was responding to several issues on the "reformasi" movement raised at the assembly.

He added that the people must guard against outside influences and also not be taken by misleading statements in the foreign media.

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