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PRIME MINISTER TO LAUNCH NATIONAL BOOK FUND ON AUG 5

JERANTUT, July 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to launch on Aug 5 the National Book Fund which will collect books to be channelled to rural libraries nationwide, Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa said today.

He urged the public to contribute either old or new books to the fund for the benefit of the rural community.

The reading materials could be sent to the post offices or Petronas gas stations nationwide, he told reporters after launching the village adoption programme organised by Wanita Umno in Kampung Teh, Batu Embun, here.

Annuar said there were now 198 rural libraries in the country and the ministry planned to set up 1,000 more to cultivate the reading habit among Malaysians.

He also said that the ministry had obtained a RM300 million allocation to implement rural infrastructure projects including RM50 million for water supply and RM20 million for electricity supply.

-- BERNAMA

KMT JK