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New way to teach Science and Maths

SRI AMAN, Fri. - The Education Ministry will take a new approach to minimise the "phobia" of students towards Science and Mathematics subjects, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

In his speech at the official opening of Sekolah Menengah Teknik Betong here today, he said the new approach would see a focus on practical skills rather than theory.

"The concept will be 70 per cent practical and 30 per cent theory," said Najib, adding this would enable students to learn faster.

Furthermore, he said, teachers would use ideas arising from their school surroundings to give students a clearer picture of what they are trying to teach.

Meanwhile, Najib said, Sekolah Menengah Teknik Betong would be the centre of technical education in the Sri Aman Division and its surrounding districts.

"Today, we have 300 students here and we will extend the school to accommodate 800 students."

Najib added that the Federal Government's commitment to the development of education in Sarawak was demonstrated by the large amount of money allocated to education in the State.

He said in the Sixth Malaysia Plan RM361 million was allocated to the State, while under the Seventh Malaysia Plan RM840.8 million was allocated.

The function today was officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

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