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Muhyiddin-Rakan Muda

RAKAN MUDA HAS YET TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVE, SAYS MUHYIDDIN

KUALA LUMPUR, March 1 (Bernama) -- Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin admitted today that the Rakan Muda programme had yet to achieve its objective to create a generation of disciplined youths.

"Why should we be ashamed to say that it has yet to achieve its objective...the programme needs the support of everyone," he told a reporters, here.

The programme was introduced in 1994 by his predecessor Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, now Johor Menteri Besar, to resolve problems besetting the youths such drug abuse, bohsia and loitering.

But a two-year study carried out by the Peninsular Malaysia Federation of Malay Students (GPMS) showed Malay students were involved in such activities.

Muhyiddin said finding a solution to the problems should be the responsibility of all and without cooperation and support, it was sure to fail.

"Rakan Muda is not the answer to all problems...family institution for example is still very important," he said.

Earlier, Muhyiddin chaired a meeting the main committee for the National Youth Day 1999 celebrations to be held at Putra Stadium in Bukit Jalil on May 15.

"The committee plans to invite Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to officiate the function and address some 10,000 youths expected to gather on that day," he said.

Muhyiddin said the committee also proposed holding a dialogue session between the prime minister and 100 selected youth leaders on economic, social and political issues.

--BERNAMA

MS ABG