

Lecturers against expulsion agreement 'can leave'

IPOH: Lecturers against a proposed agreement with the Government allowing their expulsion if their performance is not satisfactory can leave the profession, said Deputy Education Minister Datuk Aziz Shamsuddin.

"They'd better leave since their salaries are paid by the Government and the money belongs to the *rakyat*," he told reporters after the Kinta district Teachers Day celebration dinner in Linton College on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir **Mohamad** had said that students and teaching staff in public institutions of higher learning may be asked to sign an agreement with the Government allowing their expulsion if their performance was not satisfactory.

Aziz said the move was to ensure that students concentrated on studies and lecturers did not play truant.

He said it was hard to act against lecturers as most of them used the excuse of outside activities to play truant.

"We do not want to waste Government's money," he said.

Aziz said that most teachers and lecturers were good and loyal to the profession but measures had to be taken against a small number who lacked commitment.