

12 FEB 2001

RM10,000 SUBSIDY FOR POOR STUDENTS TO PAY EXAM FEES

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 12 (Bernama) -- The Yayasan Gerakbakti Kebangsaan has agreed to allocate RM10,000 as subsidy for poor students in three secondary schools in Gua Musang who face financial problems in paying for their examination fees.

Chairman of the foundation's Board of Trustees, Datuk Mokhzani Mahathir, who is also Umno Youth treasurer, said in a statement today that the contribution had been approved by the board members.

The contribution was decided upon following press reports today highlighting the difficulty faced by 600 poor students in the schools who might not be able to sit for the examinations as they could not afford to pay the fees.

The schools concerned are Sekolah Menengah (SM) Paloh, Sekolah Menengah (SM) Bandar Chiku and Sekolah Menengah (SM) Sungai Asap.

It was reported that most of the parents involved could not afford to pay for their children's examination fees for the Penilaian Menengah Rendah (PMR) and Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) following the drop in the price of oil palm, which is their main source of income, during the past one year.

The PMR fee is RM20 while the fee for SPM is from RM90 to more than RM100 depending on the number of subjects taken. The students have only one week left to settle their fees.

--BERNAMA
SHI MAM AO