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Teachers' congress hails voucher proposal

IPOH, Sat. - The Congress of Teachers' Unions in the Education Service today lauded the proposal to provide tuition vouchers for rural students under the Budget 2003 tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday.

Congress secretary-general Shahul Hamid Mydin Shah said this would ensure rural students spend more time on their studies to enable them to compete with their urban counterparts who are already taking tuition to help in their studies.

He said the move would also help teachers to earn extra income.

He, however, said guidelines must be drawn up to prevent abuse. Among them would be to ensure that only qualified teachers be allowed to manage the classes.

Shahul Hamid, who is also president of the National Union of Tamil School Teachers, hoped the vouchers would also be given to Tamil students.