

01 AUG 2003

Jamaluddin-Komnas

GOVT YES TO KOMNAS TRIAL BY EDUCATION MINISTRY

ROMPIN, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- The Government has agreed to allow the Education Ministry to try out the national computer under the Komnas pioneer project in school computer laboratories nation-wide.

Second Finance Minister Datuk Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis said the first product of DRB-Hicom Information Technologies Sdn Bhd (DHIT), a computer using the Linux open source system, was found to be more effective apart from being inexpensive.

"The Komnas pioneer project is in the early stages, having been launched in two places, namely Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Simpang Bekoh, Asahan, Melaka, and Sekolah Kebangsaan Keratong 10, Rompin," he said after launching the project at the Keratong 10 school here today.

He said the project was important in bridging the digital gap between urban and rural students in exploring information and communication technology (ICT) developments.

Dr Jamaluddin said apart from exposure to students, schools were also urged to hold ICT seminars or courses for parents during the school holidays.

Komnas, launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in July last year, initially targetted home users but was expanded to include education through school computer labs by DHIT.

Dr Jamaluddin said the Government, through the Education Ministry, had aimed to equip more than 10,000 schools with computer labs in the past three years.

The Komnas computer lab project, sponsored by DHIT, involves work like fitting network cables, supplying furniture, projectors and computers downloaded with education software from State education resource centres.

-- BERNAMA

LIB EMK SRI