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MINISTRY APPLAUDS PLAN TO SET UP DR M THOUGHTS INSTITUTE

KEMAMAN, June 23 (Bernama) -- The Education Ministry has applauded the proposal to set up the Institute of Dr Mahathir's Thoughts as a centre of learning for the young generation to better understand the hardships and triumphs of the country's leaders.

It was essential for the new generation to learn Malaysia's history and leadership to broaden their thinking, Director General of Education Datuk Abdul Rafie Mahat said.

"Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is a reformist...a thinker and his leadership is based on Islamic nationalism," he said at the launching of the 'English Theme Park' (ETP) at Sekolah Kebangsaan Kemasik, Kemaman here yesterday.

ETP, a joint-venture among Exxonmobil, the State Education Department and Terengganu Education Resource Centre, is aimed at promoting the English language not only by using text books but other contemporary methods such as the computers and audio apparatus.

At the event, chairman of Exxonmobil Subsidiaries Malaysia Robert Fisher handed over a contribution of RM192,000 to Datuk Abdul Rafie Mahat for the ETP project.

At last week's 54th UMNO General Assembly, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi announced the government's plan to set up the Institute of Dr. Mahathir's Thoughts in honour of the Prime Minister's contributions to the country.

He also commended several corporate bodies for their efforts in promoting the English language among students.

-- BERNAMA

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