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Parliament-Laptops

NONE OF PM'S CHILDREN AWARDED LAPTOP CONTRACTS

KUALA LUMPUR, June 26 (Bernama) -- The Dewan Rakyat was told today that none of the prime minister's children was involved in the award of contracts to supply laptops to schools.

Education Ministry parliamentary secretary Datuk Mahadzir Khir said that based on the profiles of the companies that were awarded the contracts, none of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's children was listed as owner or board director.

He said this in reply to an original question from Hassan Mohamed (PAS-Besut) who wanted to know whether any of the companies supplying the laptops belonged to the prime minister's children.

He said the 10 companies awarded the contracts were Apex Communication Sdn Bhd, IGIV Technology Sdn Bhd, Metronics Engineering Sdn Bhd, MHS Resources Sdn Bhd, Mimos Smart Computing Sdn Bhd, Nuinfra Consolidated Sdn Bhd, Primabumi Sdn Bhd, Saluran Fajar Sdn Bhd, SJA Trade and Services Sdn Bhd and Stack Integrator Sdn Bhd.

He said 48,639 laptops were supplied to schools this year at a cost of RM5,500 to RM5,800 per unit, depending on the brand.

To a question from Wan Nik Wan Nik Yusoff (PAS-Bachok), Mahadzir said that six companies were appointed through direct negotiations with the ministry to develop the courseware for mathematics, science and English for use in schools.

They were selected based on their vast experience and sophisticated technology, he said.

He said the ministry constantly monitored the use of the laptops in schools and had allocated RM10,000 and RM5,000 respectively to each secondary and primary school for the maintenance of the machines as well as to ensure that they were kept safely in rooms with grilles.

-- BERNAMA

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