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ARITHMETIC-CAMPAIGN

DR MAHATHIR TO LAUNCH ABACUS AND MENTAL ARITHMETIC LEARNING CAMPAIGN

KUALA LUMPUR, March 5 (Bernama) -- As part of the efforts to further promote the usage of abacus and mental arithmetic, the Malaysia-China Friendship Association, will embark on the "Let's Learn Abacus and Mental Arithmetic" campaign, from March 20 to 28.

The campaign would be officially launched by former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur on March 22, and subsequently move to five other states, including Penang, Melaka, Johor, Negeri Sembilan and Perak.

The association's honorary secretary, Tan Kai Hee, said that the campaign was one of the government's efforts to promote the learning of abacus and mental arithmetic among school children, particularly for Standard One pupils.

"Dr Mahathir, during his tenureship initiates and encourages the method of calculation using abacus or better known as sempoa and mental arithmetic, by all age groups, and not only among school children," Tan said at a press conference on the campaign here today.

Therefore, he said that the association intended to pursue the vision, as the learning method could enhance mathematical understanding and increase the capacity to do fast calculations.

During the campaign, three students aged between eight to 10 years old from Jiangsu Province, China, would be invited to demonstrate fast calculations using abacus and mental arithmetic.

Also present at the press conference was the association's president Dr M.K. Rajakumar. -- BERNAMA

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