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RM50m for Chinese community

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THE Federal Government is expected to allocate RM50 million in oil royalties for the Chinese community in Terengganu under the wang ehsan (special payment) programme, the Nanyang Siang Pau reported on Sunday.

The allocation is said to cover several sectors, including education, public welfare, public infrastructure, religious bodies and 10 Chinese primary schools.

The proposal for the allocation, said Nanyang, was prepared by the State MCA and has been recently submitted to the Second Finance Minister Datuk Dr Jamaludin Jarjis and Finance Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad through MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and party vice-president Datuk Chan Kong Choy.

The Chinese constitute around five per cent of the population in Terengganu.

Meanwhile, the China Press yesterday said that more than half the world's total population was against war on Iraq.

According to a poll launched by Gallup International and Taylor Nelson Sofres, 52 per cent of respondents from across the world objected to the United State's intention to wage war on Iraq.

The poll covered 39 countries and included more than 30,000 respondents.

The poll also indicated that 75 per cent of the respondents believed that military action would take place within a few months. This particular sentiment was also the general view of 40 per cent of the Malaysian respondents.