

# FATIMAH ASSURES ONGOING LITERACY PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN

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Fatimah in a group photo with the participants.

DALAT: The government will continue to implement various programmes to ensure that children are able to read, write and calculate upon attending schools.

Welfare, Women and Community Wellbeing Minister Datuk Fatimah Abdullah who gave this assurance noted that illiteracy among students in the country was still prevalent despite the many changes in the national education system.

“Despite the focus was on acquiring 3M (membaca, menulis dan mengira) skills in the primary school level, many still could not acquire this basic skills.

“Various efforts had been made to solve this problem such as LINUS programme to help them to acquire the basic skills,” she said this at the closing of Literacy: The Right to Read for All Children Programme at SK Datu Pengiran Mohamad, Oya on Wednesday.

The event was organised by Sarawak Dyslexia Association in collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), state education department and Sarawak Foundation.

She stressed that literacy was important for students to excel in their studies.

Meanwhile, on the event itself, she noted that the programme used phonics, systematic and post-senses activities that had been tested to be efficient especially among those who had problems in learning or slow learning.

“From the feedback that we received from the facilitators of previous camps, such methods had shown to be useful to some students as they were able to read short sentences within a week,” she said.

She hoped that the teachers involved in the camp could continue to teach their students using the methods given to them.

“If there is no continuation of the lesson after the camp, then all will come to waste,” she said.

A total of 30 pupils and 30 teachers from 10 different primary schools in Dalat participated in the programme.