

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 13
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

TELUS & TULUS • TIDAK DICENGKAM OLEH TANGAN GHAIB • MATA DAN TELUNGA RAKYAT • PEMACU PERUBAHAN

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Sesi persekolahan seperti biasa

KPM rujuk MetMalaysia, KKM untuk tentukan pakaian dan aktiviti sesuai aktiviti panas

Oleh ROSLINDA HASHIM
SUNGAI PETANI

Sesi persekolahan yang dijadualkan bermula pada minggu depan iaitu 10 dan 11 Mac ini akan berjalan seperti biasa.

Menteri Pendidikan, Fadhlina Sidek berkata, walaupun beberapa negeri berdepan cuaca panas hingga tahap berjaga-jaga namun jadual operasi persekolahan tidak berubah.

Menurutnya, hanya sesi petang persekolahan berubah ketika Ramadan iaitu ditamatkan pada jam 5.30 petang untuk Semenanjung, sementara 5 petang bagi Sabah, Sarawak dan Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan.

"Anjakan masa itu dibuat bagi beri



Fadhlina (belakang, tujuh dari kiri) bersama murid-murid yang menerima sumbangan beg sekolah sempena perasmian SJKC Poi Chee yang disempurnakan oleh beliau pada Ahad.

ruang kepada murid dan guru pulang berbuka puasa dengan selesa. Sekolah sesi pagi pula akan beroperasi seperti biasa," katanya selepas merasmikan Sekolah Kebangsaan Jenis Cina (SJKC) Poi Chee di sini pada Ahad.

Fadhlina turut menasihatkan ibu bapa dan guru agar memastikan murid diberikan panduan berdepan cuaca panas ketika sesi pembelajaran.

"Penting untuk kita ingatkan semasa pembukaan sekolah nanti, pastikan anak minum air secukupnya pada waktu sahur dan berbuka.

"Kantin tidak boleh ditutup untuk murid yang tidak berpuasa dan bukan Islam, kantin akan beroperasi seperti biasa. Kita berharap semangat pembukaan sekolah dan sambutan Ramadan lancar dan kita dapat buat persiapan

sewajarnya," katanya.

Tambah beliau, Kementerian Pendidikan Malaysia (KPM) akan sentiasa merujuk kepada Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) dan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) dari semasa ke semasa dalam menentukan pakaian dan aktiviti bersesuaian sepanjang musim cuaca panas.

"Buat masa ini kita kekal dengan garis panduan sedia ada. Semua telah ambil maklum keadaan cuaca ketika ini dan pembukaan sekolah serta Ramadan akan datang.

"Kita akan patuhi dan susun sebaiknya selain uarkan makluman dan peringatan yang telah ada sebelum ini," ujarnya.

Fadhlina berkata, pihaknya percaya Jabatan Pendidikan setiap negeri telah mengadakan libat urus masing-masing bersama pengetua dan guru besar berhubung perkara tersebut.

"Semua sekolah boleh rujuk kepada pekeliling khusus mengenai cuaca termasuk konteks aktiviti dan juga keperluan pakaian mengikut cuaca," katanya.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 15
RUANGAN : VIEWS

No heart for veterans at IJN?

I READ about the military veterans who were discharged from the National Heart Institute (IJN) while undergoing treatment, and I thoroughly sympathise with their plight.

I too experienced the sudden stopping of my treatment. I was not allowed to renew my appointment to follow up at the IJN despite telling them I live just a stone's throw away.

The little Napoleons acting as gatekeepers even ignored a referral letter. To add insult to injury, I was told I could get an appointment in the private wing if I was willing to pay.

While the cost-cutting measures by the Health Ministry makes some sense, the little Napoleons in the ministry have ignored other imperatives.

Perhaps it is not out of ill-will or malice, but nevertheless, not well-thought through policies have the unintended consequences of sabotaging the principles of caring and compassion under the current supposedly inclusive Madani government.

This arbitrary policy smells of hypocrisy and selective injustice. Carried to the extreme, the double-standard policy may do more



Photo: Filepic/The Star

damage than good in a country where the government is trying to retain the support of the rakyat. Incidentally, military veterans comprise close to one million voters!

We veterans have dedicated a significant portion of our lives to serving the country, often enduring hardships, risking our lives, and sacrificing time with our families. Many of us are sick, some bedridden due to old age and from diseases inflicted during our service. Many require treatment at the IJN but now are unlikely to receive it

despite our sacrifices.

Why punish sick veterans?

A strong military relies on recruiting and retaining skilled personnel. Treating veterans well sends a signal to current service members that their sacrifices will be recognised and valued, which can improve morale and retention rates.

When I joined the military, the government of the day promised to provide lifetime benefits, including the right to receive free medical services in government hospitals. Failing to fulfil these promises can erode trust in gov-

ernment institutions and discourage individuals from joining military service in the future.

Transitioning from military to civilian life can be challenging for many veterans. Many face difficulties in finding employment, accessing healthcare, or reintegrating into their communities. Providing support services and resources can help facilitate a smoother transition and improve overall well-being.

How a society treats its veterans reflects its values and priorities. Demonstrating care and respect for veterans sends a powerful message about the nation's gratitude for their service and its commitment to honouring those who have defended its freedoms.

Treating military veterans with care and respect is not only a moral imperative but also serves to uphold the principles of gratitude, duty, and honour to the veterans.

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