

Send in your views on capping SPM subjects

PETALING JAYA: Interested parties can send their views on the Education Ministry's plan to cap the number of subjects taken in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) by the end of this week.

Education director-general Datuk Alimuddin Mohd Dom urged them to send by e-mail or facsimile their views to him.

"The views will be taken into consideration when I prepare a paper for the minister," he told reporters after opening the Government Integrated Telecommunications Network Learning in Schools Programme schools' convention.

Alimuddin can be reached at *alimuddin.dom@moe.gov.my* or fax: 03-8889 4548.

He was asked about complaints from students who were already studying for more than 10 subjects in Form Four this year.

Alimuddin said he would prepare the paper by next week, adding that the limit on the number of subjects for the SPM examination had not been finalised yet.

"We want to hear feedback from various organisations including teachers. I will also meet with ministry-level professionals."

He said he would then discuss the matter with the Malaysian Examinations Syndicate before Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin makes a final decision.

Muhyiddin, who is also Education Minister, said last week that the Government might limit the number of subjects to ensure a fair Public Service Department (PSD) scholarship selection.

Under the SPM open certificate introduced in 2000, students have to take six core subjects – Bahasa Melayu, English, Islamic Education or Moral Studies, History, Mathematics and Science – and any other elective subjects as long as they do not clash with the timetable.

In Putrajaya, Muhyiddin said there was still time before a final decision was made to cap the number of SPM subjects.

"Whatever decision made will not affect the people negatively."



Eye on Cyberjaya

Police Constable Siti Roslinda Mohd Ariffin monitoring closed-circuit television cameras (CCTVs) from the control room after the launching of CCTV-MERS 999 in Cyberjaya yesterday. The control centre's CCTVs are linked directly to the Emergency Call Service System (MERS) 999. Cyberjaya became one of the pioneer cities under the M-SAFE programme through the Safe City concept.