

Education progress - programmes off to a good start

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THE new literacy and numeracy screening programme (Linus) for Year One pupils has got off to a favourable start.

Introduced by the Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in January, pupils would be monitored and subsequently tested after two months on where they stand on these skills.

The aim was to ensure pupils mastered the three R's — reading, writing and arithmetic — after three years of primary schooling.

The roadmap states that student-screening will be done three times a year in March, June and September, to help identify those who do not meet the relevant standards.

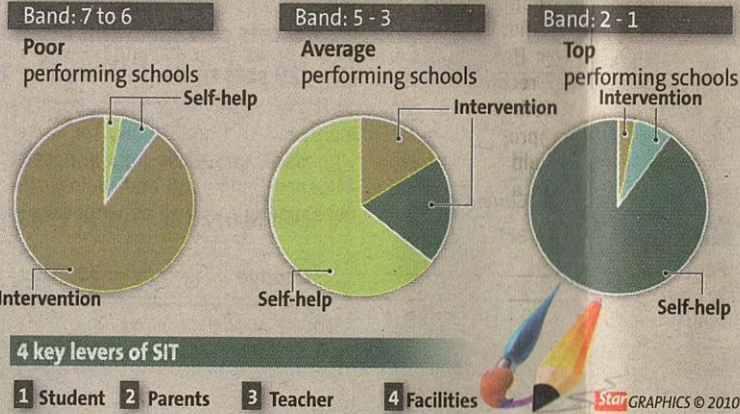
Students will then be placed into the Linus programme or into a special education programme if they have a learning disability.

To date 15,500 teachers have been trained to effectively deliver the learning modules.

The Education Ministry has also provided support to schools which identify problems they are facing through the School Improvement Programme (SIP).

Muhyiddin, who is also the Education Minister said with the SIP, schools were not left alone to solve their problems.

The School Improvement Toolkit (SIT) will be deployed to improve the school's performance



"This support is known as the service line and the needs of each school will be identified through the tool kit application on the SIP," he said, during the launch of the SIP on April 29.

The National Pre-School Curriculum Standard has been developed to ensure the level of standard and consistency among the schools.

It incorporates the principles of holistic education and includes activities to promote understanding among the different races.

Targeted training programmes will

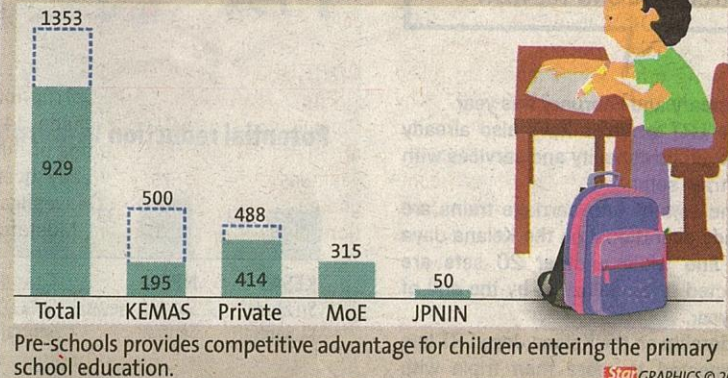
be offered to both teacher and teacher assistants to improve the skills of approximately 30,000 existing and new staff over the next three years.

For newly-hired teachers and teacher assistants, the minimum qualification requirements will be elevated to graduate and Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) level respectively.

The government also hopes that all children will have acquired basic literacy and numeracy skills after three years of education.

929 pre-school classes have started in January 2010

(68% enrolment rate)



Pre-schools provides competitive advantage for children entering the primary school education.

Results of rankings according to performance bands

