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Subject: 300 STUDENTS OF SMK AYER HITAM RECEIVE RM60,000 IN SCHOOLING ASSISTANCE

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Universiti Utara Malaysia

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"UUM : UNIVERSITI PENGURUSAN TERKEMUKA"
(THE EMINENT MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY)

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300 STUDENTS OF SMK AYER HITAM RECEIVE RM60,000 IN SCHOOLING ASSISTANCE



UUM ONLINE: Ayer Hitam - Prior to the opening of the 2022/2023 session in March of next year, Sime Darby Foundation (SDF) is providing an allocation of RM60,000 to 300 students of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Ayer Hitam in conjunction with the 'Back to School (B2S) Sime Darby Foundation Gives Back: School Edition' Programme.

The programme also received support from Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), the Kedah state government, and the State of Kedah Department of Education.

Senior Executive of Community and Health, Sime Darby Foundation, Ms Janet Khoo Nee Jian who represented the Chief Executive Officer of YSD
stated that each identified student will receive RM200 in schooling assistance, along with school bags and stationery, and vouchers worth RM150 for the purchase of other school equipment such as clothes and shoes.

"Since the beginning of this year, YSD has provided assistance totalling more than RM365,000 to assist more than 3,700 students and their families from 23 schools, including schools that have been affected by floods in Kelantan and Terengganu.

"The school assistance for this year will continue until next March, and it is hoped that it will alleviate the burden on the household to prepare for school later," she said yesterday.

Meanwhile, Senior Professor of Educational Psychology at the School of Education, UUM, Prof. Dr. Rosna Awang Hashim, and Chief Researcher of the Kedah Commitment Programme for Educating Successful Students (KOMPaS), stated that the YSD and UUM Back to School programme is a motivation for selected students, including 30 KOMPaS Gem students, to return to school and become an incentive to study diligently.

According to her, six secondary schools in the districts of Kubang Pasu, Baling, and Langkawi, comprising a total of 1,800 students, including SMK Ayer Hitam, have been selected and identified by JPN to receive the educational assistance consisting of an allocation of RM360,000.

She further reiterated that the charity programme, which is the result of a smart collaboration between the university, industry, school, and community, is expected to inspire students to return to school in March.

“We have been working with YSD for nearly four years, and in this second year, we have collected a great deal of data related to school learning, including parent involvement and school leadership, as well as students’ character.

"These data are intended to contribute to the success of the student talent development programme in this state, particularly in light of the input and findings of the KOMPaS study, which is expected to benefit the state government and the Malaysian Ministry of Education," he said.

In the meantime, fellow recipient, Mr. Ahmad Irfan Ibrahim, expressed his gratitude to YSD and UUM for their assistance.

“Even though there is a month until the start of the new school year in March, I have not yet made any preparations. I will likely only use what I currently have.

"But when I learned that I have been chosen to receive this aid, and that I am one of the Permata KOMPaS students, I am ecstatic and grateful. I will use the aid given to study hard,” said the form 4 student.

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