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After 56 Years of Waiting, SD Negeri 173281 Lumban Julu in North Tapanuli Receives Adequate Learning Facilities

North Tapanuli, North Sumatra, October 16, 2026 — Classrooms with cracked floors, leaking roofs, and rotting ceilings once defined the daily reality for students at SDN 173281 Lumban Julu in North Tapanuli Regency, North Sumatra. These deteriorating conditions routinely disrupted teaching and learning activities, especially during heavy rains. Today, through the Educational Unit Revitalization (Revitalisasi Satuan Pendidikan) Program, the school features vastly improved facilities designed to support safe and comfortable learning environments.

Principal Tamaria Purba revealed that since the school's establishment, it had never undergone significant infrastructure or facility upgrades. Alongside damaged classrooms, the school's toilet facilities were inadequate and unfit for use.

In 2025, the school received IDR 775,180,174 in revitalization funding. The grant was utilized to rehabilitate two classrooms, renovate toilets and sanitation facilities, and construct a school health unit room and a library.

Tamaria noted that these upgrades have given the school a cleaner environment and made teaching and learning activities far more conducive to education. Teachers and students now feel more comfortable and enthusiastic during lessons.

"Parents are also delighted that their children now enjoy a more comfortable learning environment, which we hope will boost their academic and non-academic achievements," Tamaria stated.

This transformation was echoed by Arion Maruli Hurabarat, a fourth-grade student at SDN 173281 Lumban Julu. He vividly recalled the school's condition when he was in the third grade, marked by broken window panes, leaking roofs, and damaged classroom floors.

"Now that I am in the fourth grade, the classrooms and toilets are wonderful. I am so much more excited to learn. Thank you, Mr. President and the Minister of Primary and Secondary Education," Arion said.

Minister of Primary and Secondary Education, Abdul Mu'ti, inspected the completed revitalization work during a working visit to North Tapanuli Regency on Thursday, October 15. In addition to examining the physical structures, the Minister observed classroom instruction utilizing Interactive Flat Panels (IFP).

During an English lesson, students showed immense enthusiasm, eagerly raising their hands and stepping forward to solve exercises directly on the IFP screen. The classroom atmosphere was further enlivened by interactive ice-breaking activities featuring songs and movements displayed via video.

"The school has a fresh look and a brand-new appearance; hopefully, it brings a brand-new spirit as well," the Minister remarked.

Furthermore, Minister Mu'ti emphasized that the government is striving to ensure every Indonesian citizen receives equal educational opportunities. A key pillar of this effort involves upgrading educational infrastructure so that schools can provide proper learning environments for both students and teachers.

In North Tapanuli Regency, the 2025 Educational Unit Revitalization Program encompassed 107 educational units, comprising 3 early childhood education units, 79 elementary schools, 13 junior high schools, 6 senior high schools, and 6 vocational high schools. The total budget allocation for the program reached IDR 79.47 billion.

Subsequently, in 2026, the revitalization program in North Tapanuli Regency covered 91 schools that have signed cooperation agreements, backed by a total budget of IDR 67.97 billion. Beneficiary schools consist of 31 early childhood education units, 42 elementary schools, 8 junior high schools, 6 senior high schools, and 4 vocational high schools. To date, disbursed funds total IDR 54.48 billion. Provides more concise and natural financial reporting.

Minister Mu'ti also reiterated the government's unwavering commitment to repairing schools experiencing moderate to severe damage across Indonesia.

"As the President has committed, by 2029 or the end of 2028 at the latest, all schools in Indonesia suffering from moderate to severe damage will be repaired," he concluded.

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