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Najib-Schools

MINISTRY TO STUDY APPROACH OF CHINESE SCHOOLS

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 1 (Bernama) -- The Education Ministry will study the approach adopted by Chinese schools in science and mathematics that has produced high academic performance.

"We must see how and why their performance is higher," Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said when asked to comment on the prime minister's call to government school authorities to emulate the commitment of the Chinese schools to education.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, when opening a school in Jitra, Kedah, on Monday, said the secret of the success of Chinese schools which constantly recorded the best results in each public examination was the commitment and seriousness of their teachers in their lessons.

Najib told reporters that Dr Mahathir's call was a positive and constructive criticism for the government schools to achieve better performance.

He said factors like seriousness of the students and teachers in holding extra classes, support from the parents and local community, family stress on mastering mathematics and students' business-oriented family background helped contribute to the success of the Chinese schools.

Najib said the performance of government schools were just as good although there were low performers.

Meanwhile, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn, said the spirit of self-reliance of the school authorities and the involvement of parents in the school activities, among others, contributed to the success of most of the students in the 1,290 Chinese schools in the country.

"Education needs the involvement of all parties and not just waiting for government aid," he told reporters after opening the ninth international forum on publication study, here.

It was now a normal thing for Malay students to attend Chinese schools, he said, adding that 10 per cent of the 600,000 students in Chinese schools nationwide were non-Chinese.

The high enrolment of Malay students in Chinese schools showed that the Chinese school system had started to look after the needs of students from other communities, he added.

-- BERNAMA

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