

No plans to make Islamic Studies a must in UPSR

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The government has no plans to make Islamic studies a compulsory pass subject in the Ujian Penilaian Sekolah Rendah (UPSR) examination, said Deputy Education Minister Dr Wee Ka Siong.

However, he said added emphasis on the subject would be given to Muslim pupils, for whom the subject is compulsory.

The ministry had also never fixed passing in certain subjects in the UPSR a condition to gain promotion to secondary school as the primary aim of the examination was to test pupils' competency in the 3Rs (reading, writing and arithmetic), he said when replying to a question from Mohd Nasir Ibrahim Fikri (BN-Kuala Nerus) in the Dewan Rakyat today.

Wee also said the government was looking into increasing teaching assistants in schools which had high enrolment.

He added that the ministry had also issued a directive to schools to limit teachers' out of school activities to a maximum of twice a month.

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