

DAP wants return of school's historic name
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The DAP is determined to get the current name of Sitiawan's SK Simpang Empat, given by the government when it took over its administration in the 1960s , replaced with its former historically significant name of SK Gandhi.

Earlier, the party with the cooperation of the Indian community in Sitiawan had succeeded in foiling a federal government attempt to take over the historic 2.2 ha of Dindings Indian Association (DIA) land.

None On that parcel of land purchased with the contributions of rubber tappers from 35 estates around Sitiawan in the 1930s, sit the SK Gandhi School, the DIA building, the Gandhi Memorial Community Hall, the Dr VRN Menon Science Laboratory, including a school field.

DAP state deputy chief M Kulasegaran is all for the renaming of the school as SK Gandhi it is closely linked with the memory of Mahathma Gandhi, a popular figure with the community for freeing India from British rule without resorting to violence.

The DAP Ipoh Barat MP said the original intention of building SK Gandhi was to educate the tappers' children in the English language.

Even though officially it is SK Simpang Empat ,the school continued to be popular known as the Gandhi school, he added.

" Until the late 1970's, the name Gandhi was printed on the school's exercise books and at the entrance of the school, the name Gandhi was prominently displayed," said the party's vice chairman.

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