

PWD told to probe alleged abuse of funds for schools

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Cabinet yesterday ordered the Public Works Department (PWD) to investigate allegations of abuse of funds given to Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Cina (SJKC) Kung Yu in Muar, Johor.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the Cabinet meeting chaired by him was briefed on the matter by Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu and Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting, who visited the school on Monday.

"According to the Cabinet report, the allocation approved was about RM29,000 but the value of the work done (to repair the school) was only about RM3,000," he told a news conference at the Defence Ministry here.

Najib, who is also defence minister, said that as there were ele-

ments of abuse in the case, the Cabinet had directed the PWD to set up a team to conduct a thorough investigation and submit a report.

"The Cabinet takes a serious view of such matters. We don't want to cover up any weaknesses or abuses that have taken place. It's not the government's intention to cover up cases like this from the people.

"In this matter, the case was detected and we will investigate and if there is any wrongdoing, negligence or abuse of power or breach of trust or anything that can be described as an offence, appropriate action will be taken," Najib said.

Earlier, Samy Vellu said after inspecting the school, he found that the cost of the repairs did not match with the expenditure allocated. — Bernama

