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# Make Merdeka the theme

## Include children in celebrations at new villages, says Ng

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**Early start:** Dr Ng (centre) posing with the kindergarten children and MCA local leaders during the launch of the Merdeka celebrations in Sekinchan yesterday.



**SEKINCHAN:** New villages in Selangor have been asked to carry out landscaping and beautification works based on the Merdeka theme and hold multi-cultural shows.

Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen, who handed RM2,000 to each of the Village Security and Development Committees (JKKK) of the 42 new villages in Selangor, said the JKKKs were also told to ensure that all villagers, including children, joined in the celebrations.

Dr Ng, who is also the Wanita MCA chief, said the new villages had a lot to be thankful for as they had progressed with the develop-



*Malaysiaku Gemilang*

ment of the nation and their situation now was far better than the early days.

The villages were given the funds by MCA to help organise events for the Merdeka celebrations starting

with thanks-giving prayers in churches and temples.

The committees would also be handed leaflets to explain the significance of the national flag and the Rukunegara and also list the accomplishments of the nation and its people, Dr Ng said after launching Selangor New Villages' Merdeka celebrations at Kampung Site C here yesterday.

She urged Malaysians to instil national pride and love for the nation among children as they would be around to celebrate the country's 100th anniversary.

Dr Ng said the children were the future leaders who would see the

development of the nation over the next 50 years.

"We have to start instilling national pride, love for the nation and respect for all Malaysians regardless of race and religion among the children so that they will truly embrace these values," she said.

Selangor MCA chairman Datuk Ch'ng Toh Eng said Malaysians should feel proud of the country's accomplishments but this did not mean they should stop looking for improvements.

"There is still a lot of work to be done to improve unity and reduce red tape and corruption," he added.