

'Go back to English schools'

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Umno division passes resolution on this

IPOH: The Tanjung Malim Umno division has called for the revival of English-medium schools.

The resolution, one of four passed at its delegates' conference yesterday, said this would enable students to prepare themselves in the globalised world.

The delegates felt that reviving English-medium schools was crucial particularly for rural students.

Apart from the Malay language, all subjects in school should be taught in English because of the increasing use of the language in courses like medicine, engineering and ICT.

In **KUALA LUMPUR**, Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said parties contesting in the next general elections could stipulate a minimum academic qualification of a Bachelor's degree if they wanted to.

"It should be left to the parties contesting to decide whether it is timely to include academic qualification as a criterion," he told reporters after opening the Bukit Bintang Umno division delegates meeting.

Muhyiddin said in the past 20 years, the majority of candidates nominated by the party

had academic qualifications.

"We are aware of the voters' preference. We also take into consideration experience, qualifications and eligibility. We have to put forward individuals who are qualified, knowledgeable and competent," he added.

He said the party also looks at the candidates' track record, such as being clean, efficient and influential among the local community as well as having good morals.

In **BUTTERWORTH**, Umno Youth chief Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said elected representatives from the party would not be re-nominated if there are poor reports of their performance.

He said the party has eight to nine channels to obtain the feedback on their performance.

"The feedback goes directly to the Prime Minister and his deputy," he told reporters after opening the Permatang Pauh Umno Youth delegates conference.

Earlier, he advised the division Youth members to close ranks with those of the other wings in Umno for the party to remain strong and united.