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Producing well-rounded, multi-skilled pupils

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TRANSFORMING pupils into well-rounded ones with a sound grasp of general knowledge and excellent thinking skills — this is set to be achieved through the implementation of the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013 to 2025 that would set the stage for the transformation of the country's education system.

Education and Performance Delivery Unit (Padu) officer Dr Rosli Yacob said in determining the direction of Malaysia's education system, two important questions had to be answered.

The first, he said, was the type of pupil that the country wanted to produce and second, how should they be educated in order to achieve the government transformation plan which has been laid out.

"Therefore, with these two questions in mind, the government has outlined the aspirations for the Malaysian education system and



Education and Performance Delivery Unit officer **Dr Rosli Yacob** says the **outcomes are in line with stakeholders' aspirations.**

its students, to address all these needs," he said.

The blueprint, which was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak last year, is aimed at improving the education system until 2025 and to internationalise and empower the education system while producing quality human capital.

Rosli said the blueprint had laid out five system aspirations, six key attributes for students, and 11 shifts to transform the education system.

"The five outcomes are access, quality, equity, unity and efficiency, whereas the six key attributes for students are knowledge, leadership skills, bilingual proficiency,

ethics and spirituality, and national identity."

The outcomes, Rosli added, were in line with the aspirations that were articulated by stakeholders and participants during the national dialogues that were held on the blueprint, and are comparable with outcomes that were set by other high-performing education systems.

"There are improvements that have to be carried out to ensure that our country can produce students who are able to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

"And among the attributes we want them to have by 2025 are that they be well rounded with strong general knowledge, and thinking and leadership skills.

"Thus, with all these in mind, the ministry came up with the 11 shifts to deliver the outcomes and each shift will address at least one of the five outcomes of access, quality, equity, unity and efficiency."

Citing an example, Rosli said in order to produce pupils with critical thinking skills or the ability to compete globally, the strategy ed-

National Education Blueprint 2013-2025

Five outcomes

- Access
- Quality
- Equity
- Unity
- Efficiency

Six key attributes for students

- Knowledge
- Leadership skills
- Bilingual proficiency
- Ethics
- Spirituality
- National identity

Implementation of blueprint in three waves

■ **Wave 1 (2012-2015)** Focus on efforts to turn around the system by supporting teachers and focusing on core skills

■ **Wave 2 (2016-2020)** Accelerating system improvements

■ **Wave 3 (2021-2025)** Moving towards excellence with increased operational flexibility

ucators would have to employ is to focus on improving their thinking skills.

The 11 shifts, however, have no time frame as it would be implemented in three "waves", whereby the results would be assessed in 2015, 2020 and 2025.

The shifts among others are to provide equal access to quality education of an international standard, ensure every child is proficient in Bahasa Malaysia and English, develop values-driven Malaysians, transform teaching into the profession of choice and to ensure high-performing school leaders in every school.

Wave 1 (2012-2015) will focus on efforts to turn around the system by supporting teachers and focusing on core skills, Wave 2 (2016-2020) on accelerating system improvements and Wave 3 (2021-2025) on moving towards excellence with increased operational flexibility.

Rosli said an annual report on the progress of the reforms would be published to increase transparency for direct public accountability.

"The blueprint has been planned carefully and in detail as suggestions and feedback from parents, educationists and academics, including experts from abroad, were taken into consideration.

"So, with the action plans and initiatives that have been laid out, I believe we can achieve this education transformation, especially if strong commitment is given by all the major stakeholders on the implementation."

