

Rukun Negara key to fostering unity

The Star - 26/8/2020 Pg. 16

THERE is no need to revamp the national education system to promote the national unity agenda, says Datuk Halimah Mohamed Sadique.

The National Unity Minister said her ministry was instead looking at Rukun Negara and the National Unity Action Plan 2021-2025 blueprint to foster unity among the rakyat.

Replying to a question by Teo Nie Ching (PH-Kulai), she said there were 6,621 Rukun Negara clubs in primary and secondary schools nationwide.

"The Rukun Negara clubs have also been set up in the Tamil and Chinese vernacular schools," she said.

Teo had asked Halimah on the

government's stand on the existence of vernacular schools and whether this was an obstacle towards unity.

She raised the issue in reference to Datuk Seri Bung Moktar Radin's (BN-Kinabatangan) speech in Dewan Rakyat last week where he said that the existence of such schools had led to disunity among Malaysians at an early age.

"If this is not the stand of the government, then the ministry could organise a (unity) course to *sekolahkan* (teach) Kinabatangan (Bung Moktar) not to make such statements that could lead to disunity in the country," added Teo.

Halimah, however, said Teo's question was political in nature as she had asked whether there were

proposals to change the national education system merely for the national unity agenda.

She said the ministry was working closely with several other ministries on how Rukun Negara could be further inculcated in the education system.

Halimah also said that several committees at the federal, state and district levels had been formed to implement recommendations made by the National Unity Advisory Council.

The council, set up in June and comprises community leaders, representatives from NGOs, the private sector and experienced experts in the field of unity, would advise the government on matters of unity and national reconciliation efforts.



If this is not the stand of the government, then the ministry could organise a (unity) course to *sekolahkan* (teach) Kinabatangan (Bung Moktar) not to make such statements that could lead to disunity in the country.

Teo Nie Ching

