

PM: TEACHERS ADAPTED TO NEW NORMAL

They are drivers of country's transformation in education, says Muhyiddin

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TEACHERS have adapted to the new normal amid the Covid-19 pandemic, embracing digital learn-

ing to ensure that students are not left behind in their education.

Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said despite the limitations and challenges, educators had made use of online platforms, with many producing materials for the teaching and learning (PdP) process.

"I would like to congratulate you (teachers) for your initiatives and innovation.

"This is a process that has room for improvement, and I hope the Education Ministry will continue to listen to the suggestions and input from educators, parents and children in improving the PdP approach.

"Teachers are educators and guides who contribute their services in all forms of educational institutions — from kindergartens to the highest level — to create a generation with knowledge."

He said this in a special address in conjunction with the 50th Teachers Day celebration themed "Berguru Demi Ilmu, Bina Generasi Baharu".

Teachers, Muhyiddin said, were the drivers of the country's transformation in education, which could not be achieved



Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin

without their resources and efforts.

He said teaching and learning methods had evolved greatly beyond the "four walls of the room" and the digital platform now served as a support tool for conventional classroom learning.

He said the Education Ministry had, since June 15, announced the use of Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia, or DELiMa, which provided opportunities for teachers to empower themselves in developing PdP digitally.

He said the implementation of digital education as an element for learning in the 21st century was also in line with the seventh shift in the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025, in implementing e-learning, which is information and communications technology-based teaching.

"Globalisation has paved the way for a new direction of the world's education.

"In this aspect, teachers play an imperative role in adapting the pedagogy based on technology in their PdP."

He said the blueprint also



Former SMK Jalan Empat principal Noorizan Mohamed (left) holding a mock cheque for the prize money she won after being named Tokoh Guru Kebangsaan in Putrajaya yesterday. With her are former Education Ministry directors-general Datuk Dr Amin Senin (centre) and Datuk Dr Habibah Abdul Rahim, who received the Tokoh Kepimpinan Pendidikan Kebangsaan award. BERNAMA PIC

aimed to create a more dynamic and effective education system, while being relevant and flexible for all times and places.

Thus, he said, teachers must be prepared with the mindset that the world was a life-long teaching ground for children to produce a civilised generation with excellence and curiosity.

"The children we wish to produce have to be able to face not only today's job market, but also be members of society with high morals and civic-mindedness, as well as being able to compete globally.

"In achieving this, the government will also ensure that no students are denied an education, including the Orang Asli and natives, special needs students and undocumented children."

He said the government would emphasise reducing the dropout rate and ensure all groups received a proper education.

He said the government appreciated the efforts and sacrifices made by teachers.

"The strong commitment of teachers has developed students' potential and brought forth their talents and skills.

"I would like to express my appreciation to teachers who have achieved success at the national and international levels."

He also announced retired teacher Noorizan Mohamed, a former principal of SMK Jalan Empat, Bandar Baru Bangi, as this year's Tokoh Guru Kebangsaan recipient, Malaysia's highest teaching award.

Former Education Ministry directors-general Datuk Dr Amin Senin and Datuk Dr Habibah Abdul Rahim were named Tokoh Kepimpinan Pendidikan Kebangsaan.