

**'DEEPLY FLAWED' EDUCATION SYSTEM**

# **'FOCUS ON MORAL, ETHICAL VALUES, TOO'**

**PM says there is  
too much emphasis  
on academic  
achievements**

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**T**HE national education system is "deeply flawed" as it places excessive emphasis on academic achievements while neglecting moral and ethical values, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday.

He said the recent rise in bullying cases among students reflected a more serious underlying problem, that the current education approach prioritised intellectual excellence over character development.

"Our education system is flawed. It stresses knowledge, not values, not moral and ethical principles."

Anwar said the problem was not confined to schools, pointing to the wider societal failure to instil moral understanding and compassion.

He said the education system should not only produce intelligent students, but also nurture individuals with integrity, empathy and a strong sense of responsibility towards others.

He added that the cultivation of these values must begin at home and continue through the school system, with parents and educators playing equally vital roles.

"It's not just the teachers' fault. Parents, too, must share this responsibility," he said, referring to recurring cases of bullying and misconduct among youths.

Recently, police confirmed that four 17-year-old male students, scheduled to sit the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia examination next month, had been remanded for six days over the alleged rape of a 15-year-old schoolgirl in Alor Gajah last week.

They are being investigated under Section 375B of the Penal Code for gang rape.