

# Parents, teachers share role in shaping student behaviour: PM

**PUTRAJAYA:** Teachers should not be solely blamed for cases of immoral behaviour among students, as the responsibility must also be shared by parents, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said weaknesses in the national education system inherited from the past had created flaws by focusing primarily on academic knowledge while neglecting the inculcation of principles, ethics and moral values among students.

Anwar said such shortcomings have contributed to incidents of misconduct in schools, including recent cases of bullying and sexual assault.

"I emphasise that the issue of bullying arises because our education emphasises knowledge, not values, morals or ethical principles. So there is a flaw," he said during the monthly assembly with staff of the Prime Minister's Department yesterday.

Also present were Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar, Public Service Department director-general Datuk Seri Wan Ahmad Dahlan Abdul Aziz, and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Datuk Seri Dr Zaliha Mustafa.

The prime minister expressed hope for stronger collaboration among educational institutions, parents and the community to address these weaknesses and nurture a generation that is not only knowledgeable but also morally upright.

"Hopefully, we will have the determination to do what is best for our families, our society and our country," he said.

The Education Ministry recently announced that it was implementing comprehensive reforms to strengthen student safety and discipline, including a proposal to draft an Anti-Bullying Act under a tribunal system currently being reviewed by the Legal Affairs Division. - Bernama





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**- ADAM AMIR  
HAMZAH/THE SUN**