

MIC Committed To Relocating Tamil Schools With Low Enrolment
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PUTRAJAYA, Sept 24 (Bernama) -- MIC is committed to relocating Tamil schools with low enrolment to new areas with many Indian residents, said MIC deputy president, Datuk Dr S. Subramiam.

He said there were 14 schools which had less than 10 pupils and 969 schools with less than 25 pupils.

"We have told Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak that MIC needs a big financial allocation to tackle the problem. I have also raised the matter in the Cabinet that no Tamil schools are to be closed but only relocated," he told reporters after a party seminar titled "Energising Indian Cooperatives" which was opened MIC president Senator Datuk G. Palanivel, here, Saturday.

He said, MIC was identifying suitable sites to relocate problematic Tamil schools, and was confident this would cause the number of pupils to increase.

Subramaniam also denied a Tamil newspaper report that Sekolah Rendah Tamil Horvad, Jerai, Gurun, Kedah would be closed because of poor attendance, saying a suitable site was being identified for the school.

He was confident the Indian community would continue to back MIC to ensure the continuance of Tamil schools. It is estimated that there are 107,000 pupils in 523 Tamil schools nationwide.

Subramaniam conceded that there were weaknesses in the process of improving and constructing additional buildings for Tamil schools, as sometimes, the needs of the school and parents were not met.

"The financial allocations for Chinese schools are given straight to the School Organising Committees, but, it is a different case for Tamil schools," he said.

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