

Parliament: Malaysia Fourth Among 57 Countries In Education Expenditure
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- Malaysia ranked fourth out of 57 economically-competitive countries in terms of education expenditure average, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong said.

He said the ranking was based on the World Competitiveness Yearbook 2010 issued by the Institute for Development Management.

"The report ranks Thailand at number 32, Singapore (53), the Philippines (56) and Indonesia (57).

"This goes to prove that that the government has been striving to create human capital who are capable of fulfilling not only the need of the local market but also at the international level," he said in reply to a question from Datuk Rashid Din (PKR-Merbok) at the Dewan Rakyat here today.

Rashid wanted to know the average expenditure spent by the government on each primary, secondary or university student in the past three years in comparison with other Asean countries.

He said the average expenditure for each student during the period was RM3,354 for primary school and RM4,039 for secondary school.

The government also provided 22 other types of assistance, totalling RM3 billion a year.

"The government is also financing matriculation programme with an average expenditure of RM9,100 for each student covering, among others, the study, examination and accommodation fees," he said.

The government also targeted to increase the pre-school enrollment rate to up to 87 per cent next year in collaboration with the private sector, he said.

"Prior to the implementation of the National Key Result Area (NKRA), our achievement was only about 67 per cent. Now the rate has gone up to 80 per cent," he said, adding that 100 high-performance schools would be built next year.

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