

**DPM: Education Ministry resolving Mandarin teacher shortage**  
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**By MARTIN CARVALHO**

KUALA LUMPUR: The shortage of Mandarin teachers in Chinese schools should not be politicised and the Education Ministry is taking steps to resolve the issue, said Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

"I hope this will not become a political issue," he told reporters after launching the Umno Federal Territories election machinery here.

He said steps were being taken to address the concerns raised by various groups and their protest should not be viewed as though the ministry had not done anything to resolve issues faced by Chinese schools.

He was commenting on the protest by Chinese educationist groups, United Chinese School Teachers Association (Jiao Zong) and United Chinese School Committees Association (Dong Zong), over the shortage of the teachers at Chinese primary schools nationwide.

Muhyiddin said that Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong had met the groups recently to better understand their grouses.

"The outcome of the meeting will be presented to me next week.

"The decision we take will be based on resolving the problem of the shortage and not without taking into consideration their actual needs," Muhyiddin, who is Education Minister, said.

He added that the teachers who were sent to Chinese schools facing teacher shortage were a temporary measure.

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