

**Decline In Interest In Science, Maths Addressed In Education System Review -
Muhyiddin
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IPOH, Feb 11 (Bernama) -- The decline in interest among students for science and mathematics in schools is being addressed in the review of the national education system, said Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

Muhyiddin, who is also Education Minister, said the comprehensive review was expected to be completed by the end of this year or early next year.

"All subjects are being addressed in the review. We will zero in on the weaknesses and find ways to rectify them," he said.

He said this at the "Strengthening Professionalism of Perak Educators" event here today.

Muhyiddin had been asked for his comments on newspaper reports pertaining to the drop in interest among students for science subjects and mathematics in schools.

Deputy Education Minister Dr Mohd Puad Zarkashi recently was reported as saying that the ministry was viewing the matter seriously as there was a 37 per cent drop in students taking up science and mathematics and a 29 per cent decline for pure science subjects.

Muhyiddin said the comprehensive review was being done to identify weaknesses in the national education system.

"That is why we took the initiative to make the review and our achievements. It has to be a total review...where we have succeeded and where are our weaknesses.

"Although at certain levels we have recorded progress that we can be proud of, there are those who say we are left behind," he said.

He said the experts handling the review would be making their recommendations and that the Education Ministry would use the input in its decision making.

In his speech, Muhyiddin said the review started a few months ago as the national education system had not been subjected such since the Razak and Rahman Talib reports on the system were tabled over 30 years ago.

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