

**MCA Raises Issue Of Funding For SJMK With Muhyiddin
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 8 (Bernama) -- MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek said he had raised the need for special funding for national-type secondary schools (SMJK) with Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He said the matter was raised when he led a delegation comprising ministers and deputy ministers from MCA during their meeting with Muhyiddin on Oct 31 to discuss several issues related to the SMJK, which were originally Chinese independent schools before being converted into government-aided schools.

"Among the problems discussed was the funding for development which MCA feels is inadequate. We feel that many issues which are specific to SMJK require the attention of the Education Minister so that special focus can be given to them," he told a press conference, here.

He said MCA would also be holding a meeting with the boards of governors and principals of 78 SMJK which had a total of 125,000 students.

Dr Chua also said that during the meeting, MCA also disclosed the problem of appointing a principal for some of the SMJK as some of the teachers would be unable to assume the post as their grade was only at DG48 while the grade required for the post was DG52.

"The Education Minister has agreed that this problem will be solved from 2012 where all eligible candidates will be promoted to grade DG52. So, the problem of vacancies not filled because of the grading problem will not arise."

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