

Muhyiddin: Vernacular schools not sidelined
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SHAH ALAM: Vernacular schools have not been sidelined by the Government, as alleged by some quarters, said [Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin](#).

The Deputy Prime Minister said the annual budget allocated to vernacular schools was similar to that given to national schools.

"On average, RM2.235mil is allocated to each Chinese school annually, while each Tamil school receives RM1.99mil.

"A national school, on average, gets RM2.262mil annually. If you compare the allocations, there is not much difference," he told a gathering of vernacular school teachers here Thursday.

Muhyiddin, who is also Education Minister, said a total of RM2.89bil was allocated to Chinese schools annually, while Tamil schools received RM1.04bil.

"So we have spent nearly RM4bil on vernacular schools. Most of it goes to paying the salaries of teachers," he said.

While admitting that national schools were given priority in policy-making, Muhyiddin said Chinese and Tamil schools were "never treated differently".

On infrastructure problems faced by vernacular schools, Muhyiddin said national schools faced the same issue and the ministry would rectify accordingly.

"We did an audit and found 600 schools in very bad state. Many vernacular schools are in better shape, especially compared to rural schools," he said.

Also at the gathering were Agriculture and Agro-based [Minister Datuk Seri Noh Omar](#), [Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Donald Lim](#), Selangor Barisan Nasional coordinator [Datuk Seri Mohd Zin Mohamed](#), PPP [president Datuk M. Kayveas](#) and Deputy Information, Communications and [Culture Minister Datuk Maglin Dennis D'Cruz](#).

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