

**PTPTN: Opposition Championing The Cause Of The Rich, Says Shafie Apdal**  
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KUANTAN, April 9 (Bernama) -- The proposal by the opposition to abolish the National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) if they were to win the next general election shows that the opposition is only championing the cause of the wealthy group.

Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal said the PTPTN, which was set up in 1997, had given much benefits to the lower income group and should not be abolished as it was the only channel that could help them.

"I feel the proposal by the opposition on the abolition of the PTPTN shows that they only want to champion the cause of the rich like the expensive houses built in Penang which the poor could not afford to own," he told reporters after opening the 1st Series of the District Development Coordination Meeting 2012, here Monday.

He said that if the PTPTN were to be scrapped, poor students who achieved outstanding results in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia and Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia would not have the opportunity to continue their studies at the tertiary institutions.

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