

**Schools, District Education Offices To Be Given More Autonomy - Muhyiddin
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MUAR, May 4 (Bernama) -- All schools and district education offices (PPD) in the country will probably be given more autonomy to enable them to improve their respective performances.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said it was part of the Education Ministry's moves to strengthen the national education system, so that it could be at par with the system in developed countries.

Muhyiddin, who is also Education Minister, said the reason the issue of autonomy in school and district levels had never been raised until today was not because the ministry was trying to run away from its responsibility, but because it realised that the situation in the districts differed from one another.

He said the differences were not only in terms of the size of the districts, but also in terms of issues and problems faced by the districts due to different eco-systems.

"So, it needs a different approach altogether to ensure that the schools in the districts can achieve the targeted level of excellence," he said at a special programme with educators and the launch of Muar PPD building here.

Muhyiddin said by giving the autonomy power, the PPD would be held responsible to tackle any problems concerning the schools and make suitable improvement as soon as possible.

In fact, he said in certain states like Sabah and Sarawak, the PPD would become a more important organisation to ascertain that all government policies would be implemented properly.

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