

**People's Religious Schools Not Neglected As Claimed By Opposition
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 11 (Bernama) -- The Education Ministry channeled aid amounting RM95 million to people's religious schools (SAR) in 2011, rebutting opposition allegations that the government does not provide allocation for SAR.

Deputy Education Minister Dr Mohd Puad Zarkashi said the SAR also enjoyed other facilities after they registered with the ministry.

"To date, 156 of 382 SAR nationwide have registered with the ministry and changed status to government aided religious schools (SABK)," he told reporters at parliament lobby Thursday.

Puad said problem arose when most SAR refused to register with the ministry and the opposition just wanted to politicise the issue.

Facilities given to SAR registered with the ministry were financial aid to upgrade schools and teachers, permanent post, pensionable and higher wages.

A group of SAR students were seen gathered at the entrance of parliament house this morning over the allocation for SAR.

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