

**Preschool Education Important In Helping Malaysia Become Developed Nation -
D'Cruz
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 8 (Bernama) -- Preschool education is important for children in helping this country achieve developed nation status by 2020, says Information, Communications and Culture Deputy Minister Datuk Maglin Dennis D'Cruz.

He said preschool education was also vital in promoting love for learning among people from a very young age.

"The government realises how important preschool is that it has increased the allocation for this sector in the 2013 Budget through government agencies such as the Community Development Department (Kemas) to set up kindergartens in the villages, estates and urban housing areas.

"This is to assist parents in encouraging their children to learn by sending them to kindergartens to enable them to adapt easily to formal schooling when they enter Year One," he said at the presentation of prizes and children's graduation from Tadika Sri Wawasan, here, Thursday.

In September this year, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced a RM1.2 billion allocation for various government agencies to equip children with quality preschooling while RM380 million was allocated for the placement of preschool teachers by the Education Ministry.

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