

**BN Manifesto Aimed At Achieving Excellence In Education - Muhyiddin
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PAGOH, April 11 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the 18 initiatives listed under the education segment of the Barisan Nasional (BN) manifesto for the 13th General Election (GE13) was aimed at achieving excellence in education and the teaching profession.

According to Muhyiddin, the target was to elevate Malaysia to the top three best education systems in the world.

Among the promises that BN has made to improve the quality of education, included plans to allow performance-based fast tracking promotion for 420,000 teachers, build more schools in areas of high demand, continuing special allocations for all types of schools.

Improving the command of Bahasa Malaysia and English among students of national type schools (SJK) is another initiative included.

To ease the burden of teachers, more administrative assistants would be roped in so that teachers can focus on teaching students instead of being involved in administrative work.

Muhyiddin was speaking to reporters after opening a new building at Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil Lanodron and presenting excellent awards to recipients at Sekolah Parlimen Pagoh, Panchor, here, Thursday.

The government will also train teachers to be proficient in English and make English a compulsory pass subject in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination from 2016.

Opportunities for students in vocational schools will be increased from 10 percent now to 20 percent to attract more students to take up such education.

The manifesto added that the government would continue to support SJK(Chinese) and SJK (Tamil) schools by providing annual grants and upgrading the infrastructure of such schools.

Muhyiddin added that the government would also introduce a new curriculum in Bahasa Malaysia subjects at SJKC and SJKT schools to be on par with the acceptable standard of students in such schools.

"We have received feedback that students at Chinese schools have lamented that the standard of Bahasa Malaysia taught in Chinese schools was high. We hope to reduce the level of difficulty to an acceptable level," he said.

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