

BN Gov't Hailed For Commitment To Chinese Education
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 12 (Bernama) -- The Young Malaysians Movement (YMM) has hailed the Barisan Nasional (BN) government for its commitment to ensuring that the Chinese community also enjoys the same rights as the other communities, including in the field of education.

Its president, Tan Pei Leong, said that though some quarters attempted to negate the concern of the government for the Chinese community, particularly in the field of education, the stand adopted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in recognising Chinese education was well received by the community.

"The government under the leadership of Datuk Seri Najib has helped the Chinese community a lot by not neglecting the interests of the community in the various programmes implemented.

"This included the 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M), said to have been most successful, which proved that the government is really committed in helping to ease the burden of the low-income people," he told Bernama Friday.

Tan said the government also gave out the RM100 schooling aid and RM200 voucher to tertiary students, which eased the financial burden of students, including Chinese students.

He said the Chinese community should be thankful because Malaysia was on the right track, with the community at liberty to engage in its cultural practices and use its mother tongue.

"I wish to urge all Chinese youths in particular to make the right choice and discharge their duty as responsible voters to elect the right leaders in the 13th General Election so that we can continue to enjoy progress with the other Malaysian communities," he said.

It had been reported in the media that at a gathering in Kajang, it was stated that national type Chinese schools (SJKCs) had been neglected for 20 years and did not have enough teachers.

A teacher, Tan Woan Ling, 28, said the allegation was not true because the government had allocated RM100 million for the upgrading of the Chinese schools throughout the country under Budget 2013.

The teacher of SJKC Tei Hwa, Kota Tinggi, Johor, said the government effort to make available the Education Blueprint had greatly helped teachers in educating children.

"By way of the Education Blueprint, the prime minister has targeted to increase the number of Chinese language teachers to meet the demand of the SJKCs. This clearly proves that the government has never sidelined Chinese students," she told Bernama.

Tan said that the welfare of Chinese school teachers was also well taken care of by the government, reflecting that the education field enjoyed its special attention.

Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin had been quoted as saying that the government had allocated RM2.89 billion for the management of the SJKCs,

with much of the money going to paying salaries.

Currently, there are 1,294 national type schools in the country.

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