

**BN Federal Aid For State Educational Institutions Not Meant To Show Off -  
Muhyiddin  
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KULIM, April 23 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today the Barisan Nasional (BN) federal government did not mean to show off or portray arrogance by giving aid to educational institutions under the auspices of the state governments.

The deputy prime minister said the federal aid was given to people's religious schools and 'tahfiz' studies centres in Kedah, for example, after their applications for funds from the PAS-led state government were not entertained.

"Our donation or aid does not mean that we are showing off or being arrogant. It is being given simply because some state governments, after getting the people's mandates in 2008, failed to help," he said when opening the RM5.9- million building of the Kulim-Bandar Baharu District Education Office, here.

Also present were Muhyiddin's wife, Puan Sri Norainee Abdul Rahman, Kedah BN chairman Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipa and the BN candidate for the Kulim-Bandar Baharu parliamentary seat, Datuk Abdul Aziz Sheikh Fadzir.

Muhyiddin said the government's concern for the problems faced by the people was proven yet again when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak spontaneously announced an allocation of RM3 million to the people's religious schools in Jerai which had difficulty supplying nutritious food to the pupils.

"Datuk Bashah and I went to Jerai to meet with several leaders of the 12 schools involved and we were informed that they had met with the Kedah menteri besar thrice to seek help, but nothing had been forthcoming.

"They also informed us that there are 7,000 pupils in need of nutritious food aid. So, we brought this to the prime minister's attention and he approved the RM3-million allocation immediately," he said.

Muhyiddin also reminded the people in Kedah, especially teachers, to be wise in deciding the future of the state and the country and that they should make a comparison with what PAS had done after taking over the state from the BN in 2008.

He said that PAS, as a party that claimed to uphold Islam, had clearly failed in contributing towards the betterment of the Muslims because they could not bring any development or create any success stories in the states they administered.

While admitting that the BN government had its shortcomings, the deputy prime minister said that after ruling the country for 56 years, it truly had enough experience to be given a fresh mandate to continue the national development agenda, including to improve the quality of the national education system.

Muhyiddin said that during the ongoing election campaign, the people would be deluged with various promises, but as a knowledgeable society, they should be able to see who had listened to their problems and could fulfill their promises.

"I have gone to Yan, Pendang and other constituencies in Kedah and I found that the state government's performance to be not so encouraging.

"As for the BN government, we have been discharging our responsibilities for the people over the past 56 years. We have the experience needed to be entrusted with the responsibilities again; so the people must be wise enough to choose the leaders with vision and experience to continue developing the country," he added.

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