

Muhyiddin: BN Government Does Not Block Expansion Of National Type Schools
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MELAKA, 29 April (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today said the education system in the country is quite exceptional because all schools are given equal attention, none is being marginalised but they are instead provided various aid to develop the schools and teachers.

The Deputy Prime Minister said as an example, the government allocated RM1.8 billion to pay the salaries of teachers in the national type [Chinese] schools (SJK[C]) and RM600 million for the SJK [Tamil] throughout the country each year.

"The majority of the more than 39,000 teachers in the SJK [C] are teachers whose salaries are paid by the government, in fact, other incidentals such as the schools' electricity and water bills are also mostly paid for by the Education Ministry," he said.

Thus, the people should not be deceived by the tactics of the opposition who claimed that the BN government was not being fair to these schools, he said when officiating the overhead pedestrian bridge project at the Sekolah Rendah Jenis Kebangsaan [Cina] Wen Hua, here today.

"In Malaysia, we have never closed down any national type schools. I say this because in the run up to the general election, the opposition try to influence the people by saying that the BN is unfair, (the BN) marginalises such schools...I as the Education Minister refute such allegations," he said.

The Deputy Prime Minister reiterated that the Barisan Nasional (BN) government will not block the growth of the Chinese and Tamil national type schools in the country.

Muhyiddin said the government was aware of the importance of such schools in the development of the various communities in the country.

"Although there is a policy that gives emphasis on national schools, we do not stop or prevent certain ethnic groups such as the Chinese and Indian communities from continuing their efforts to develop these national type schools.

"The Chinese and Indian communities, just like the Malays, would want their children to know about their own culture and mother tongue," he said.

The RM1.016 million overhead bridge would enable the pupils of the SJK (C) Wen Hua and Sekolah Kebangsaan Batu Berendam to cross the road and avoid the risk of accidents.

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