

Merger Of Ministries Can Enhance Policy Implementation, Provide Quality Education To All - DPM

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NILAI, May 16 (Bernama) -- The merger of the Education Ministry and the Higher Education Ministry under one roof is to standardise the implementation of policies to enhance quality of national education.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said through the merger, all levels of education can share resources and expertise to ensure education programmes are efficiently managed and help contribute towards national development.

The decision of the Prime Minister to merge the two education ministries under one roof with the appointment of a second Minister was timely.

"It also symbolises the caring nature of his leadership towards education in the country by being more efficient and contribute more effectively to the country's education system," he said when speaking at the 42nd National Teacher's Day celebration held at the Nilai Indoor Stadium, in Nilai, Thursday night.

Muhyiddin also announced that the new ministry will only be known as Education Ministry.

He said through the merger of the two ministries, the transformation of education will be implemented more efficiently when experts from all levels of education could be harnessed to produce a multiple shift in the national education system.

Meanwhile, he said, the theme of this year's Teachers' Day, 'Malaysian Teachers: 1Aspiration 1Agenda' was timely as the ministry was transforming the national education system through the Malaysia Education Blueprint (PPM) 2013-2025, which has been launched.

He said, the theme reflected the hopes of the people in creating a brighter future for the future generations and hoped the education entity understood the objectives of the blueprint to provide higher quality education for all levels of students.

He said since the launch, six initiative targets in the first 100-day wave had been achieved.

This included testing 61,000 English language teachers through the Cambridge Placement Test (CPT) to identify the level of proficiency in the language with the first 5,000 teachers commencing training to improve their proficiency level, he said.

He added that improving the quality of teachers was also carried out by creating 339 SiPartners+ and 1,278 School Improvement Specialist Coaches (SISC+) who will be placed at the district education office nationwide by next year.

"I am confident teachers will get the best support to raise the quality of schools by reducing 50 per cent schools in band 6 and 7 in states such as Sabah and Kedah. God Willing, by 2015, we will achieve zero target for both types of schools," he said.

At the event, Muhyiddin presented the 2013 National Education Leadership Personality award to Datuk Noor Rezan Bapoo Hashim and the 2013 National Teachers Award to three recipients, namely Rabiah Johari, Wan Hamzah Wan Daud and Jacob P.C Mathews while the

2013 National Private School Teacher Award went to Datuk Freida Mohd Pilus.

Also present at the ceremony were second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh and deputy ministers P. Kamalanathan and Datuk Mary Yap as well as Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan.

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