

Malaysia Committed To Enhance Quality Of Life Through Education - Muhyiddin Bernama
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 21 (Bernama) -- Malaysia is committed to significantly enhance the quality of life of its people through various programmes and activities, especially in the education sector, currently undertaken in the country, as well as the region.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the collaboration between various parties, including UNESCO, towards quality education and life-long learning would bring about greater productivity and social mobility in parallel to propel Malaysia into a high income nation.

"The collaborative effort aim is to ensure that all Malaysians will have access to an affordable, relevant and a balanced education system that is also sustainable in the long term.

"We are currently addressing the social determinants of education to ensure it is holistic and in line with the National Education Philosophy, and in cognisance of Malaysia's diverse racial and cultural make-up.

"This will lead to the nurturing of future Malaysians who not only can compete in the local field, but also demonstrate exemplary leadership and competence on the global front," he said during a dinner in conjunction with the official visit by Unesco Director-General Irina Bokova in Kuala Lumpur, Tuesday night.

Muhyiddin, who is also education minister and president of the Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO, said the launch of the Malaysian-UNESCO Cooperation Programme (MUCP) Fund-in-Trust recently, was another proof and testimony that Malaysia would continue supporting UNESCO's programmes and activities.

The deputy prime minister said this effort and collaboration must be continued and go on for the benefit of all people, including the younger generation.

"With this in mind, as with any collaborative effort, there must be a spirit of contribution and compromise, and achieving a win-win situation by both parties.

"This is important to attain a common goal of nurturing the young ones in the best possible manner, who will after all, be our future generation," he noted.

Meanwhile, Bokova described this cooperation as deep and meaningful as it was focussing more on capacity building, science and education.

She said these highlighted Malaysia's experience and therefore, UNESCO was proud to work with the (Malaysian) government in this collaboration.

"Education is powerful. Malaysia has justified goals to become a more developing country.

"This is the strength of Malaysia towards Vision 2020. This vision draws on values embedded in Malaysian society.

"I thank the government for building peace in the minds of the people through education

and various programme," she added.

This is Bokova's first official three-day visit to Malaysia, beginning on Tuesday, with numerous meetings and activities lined up.

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