

**Study On Student Enrollment, Hostel Capacity Needed - Muhyiddin
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 12 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin wants a study carried out on the enrollment of undergraduates at higher learning institutions, together with hostel accommodation capacity, as both are closely linked.

He said the study was needed to determine the excess provision capacity to higher education and optimum hostel facilities for Malaysia to achieve the developed nation status by the year 2020.

"Currently, the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister's Department, together with the Education Ministry are studying the undergraduate enrollment projection for higher education in government and private institutions until the year 2020 which will be detailed in the 11th Malaysia Plan (RMK-11)," he said in his speech at the National Students Consultative Council Meeting (MPPK) here today.

Also present were Second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh and Deputy Education Minister P. Kamalanathan.

Muhyiddin who is also Education Minister said student enrollment in government higher learning institutions had increased from 462,780 in 2010 to 521,793 in 2012.

"However, the new hostels build through the Private Fund Initiative (PFI) under the RMK-10 amounted to 75,184," he said.

He said out of that total, 7,184 had been completed, 39,000 were under construction and the remaining 29,000 were still in the discussion stage.

At the same time, he said, through the PFI, the ministry was also building student residential colleges which were expected to house more than 54,000 undergraduates.

The issue of student hostels had been brought up at the MPPK meeting which is

the main platform for student leaders at higher learning institutions, to voice out issues, make suggestions and give their views on policies and national development programmes.

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