

Muhyiddin: School Management, Parents Should Monitor Students' Activity To Prevent Kidnapping

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MUAR, June 27 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today reminded all relevant quarters, especially school management and parents to always monitor students' activity to ensure their safety.

Expressing his worry over the recent kidnapping and crime cases involving schoolchildren, the deputy prime minister also called on all quarters not to take such incidents lightly.

"We are indeed worry and concerned about the incidents and as the government, we will not take this lightly. The police are investigating, but we hope the society will also play their roles to help.

"At school levels, we have lined up several programmes to remind the schoolchildren about personal safety and not to follow strangers who may use tricks and tempting baits to kidnap them."

He said this to reporters here today in response to the rising number of kidnapping cases involving schoolchildren and efforts to enhance students' awareness about personal safety.

The latest case reported involved a Year Three girl who was abducted and allegedly molested in Slim River, Perak two days ago.

Between January and June this year, eight kidnapping and abduction cases involving children were reported nationwide.

Muhyiddin said parents were also responsible of monitoring their children's movement and ensuring that the children were not left alone at any time to prevent them from becoming preys.

"Prevention is better than cure. School management, as well as the Parents-Teacher Association must play their parts to ensure that the children are protected at all time and not to be left alone and exposed to all dangers," he said.

On the possibility to place a RELA squad member at school, he said it could be done if deemed necessary and suitable.

Earlier, Muhyiddin presented donations to 116 mosques and suraus, as well as to students who excelled in their PMR, SPM, STPM and religious schools examinations in Pagoh last year.

In his speech at the event, the deputy prime minister also refuted the allegation made by certain quarters that the quality of the national education system was not at par with that of developed nations.

He said Malaysian students were not only accepted into Ivy League universities, but some of them had also emerged as best students of universities in the United Kingdom and the United States.

"It's not true when people said that our education system is not at par with that in other countries because when our students excelled and went abroad after their SPM examinations, they were accepted into those international universities," he said, adding that the government was also in the midst of luring one or two international universities to open their campuses in Pagoh.

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