

EC: No language bar on election candidates
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Election Commission makes non-committal reply to suggestion of SPM credit in Malay.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Election Commission is studying a proposal that individuals wanting to become elected representatives be required to have at least a credit in Bahasa Melayu in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination.

EC chairman Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof said the suitability of the proposal must be studied.

“Under the Federal Constitution and EC regulations, there are no requirements for election candidates to have a credit in Bahasa Melayu,” he said by text message reply to Bernama.

Researcher and columnist Mohd Ridhuan Tee Abdullah had recently suggested that the EC should require people wanting to become elected representatives whether at the parliamentary or state level to have at least a credit in Bahasa Melayu in SPM.

On Wednesday, the Social and Cultural Affairs Advisor to the Government, Rais Yatim, was reported as saying the suggestion should be supported as each leader in the country should be able to speak Bahasa Melayu well.

– *BERNAMA*

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