

# No discrimination in education system

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**PEKAN:** The education system is designed to offer equal opportunities for all, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said yesterday.

He said the fairness of the system could be seen from the thousands of graduates from poor families.

“Our education system is a fair one as you can see from the social background of those who were given the chance to further their studies in the universities,” he said after launching a foster fami-

ly programme for undergraduates here yesterday.

He said those who had benefited from the opportunities should return the favour by lending the government a hand by increasing awareness on the importance of education to the poor and underprivileged.

He said the foster parent programme, involving 800 undergraduates from 18 public universities, was a good example of how those who had been successful could help in encouraging others

to emulate them.

The undergraduates participating in the programme would stay with their foster families in Pekan for six days.

The undergraduates and their foster parents would attend talks on how education serves as a motivational and career development tool.

Najib said the programme would also benefit the younger children of the foster families as they would have a chance to interact with their “foster siblings”.

“The presence of undergraduates in these families would motivate the youngsters to study harder and strive towards attaining a higher level of education.”

The programme was organised in conjunction with the Pekan Fest carnival with the help of the Higher Education Ministry.

Najib also handed over a contribution of RM1.1 million by the Pintar Foundation to Universiti Tun Abdul Razak to help sponsor the university’s deserving students.