

Govt meets elite schools target

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ON A PAR WITH THE BEST: Each state now has one high-performance school

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THEIR consistent excellent track record has pushed another 25 schools into the list of high-performance schools (HPS) bringing the total to 91.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said with these additional schools, the Education Ministry's target to develop and form at least one high-performance school in each state had been achieved under the Government Transformation Plan 1.0 (2010-2012) which ends on Dec 31.

"A special allocation of about RM18.7 million will be given to the 25 HPS so that the children can enjoy quality education at a par with international standards.

"I hope the HPSs will continue to excel and produce quality students who will master the skills of critical thinking, creativity and innovation; become good leaders; be proficient in Bahasa Malaysia and the English language; and possess strong values as well as national identity," said Muhyiddin in his speech, which was delivered by Education Ministry secretary-general Datuk Dr Rosli Mohamed.

Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, added that preparing

students with such skills and values would enable them to contribute meaningfully to their family, society and country, which was in line with the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025.

Based on the continuous great showing from the 66 HPS that were recognised earlier, the government had agreed to extend the programme into GTP 2.0 with a target of identifying 10 new HPS yearly, said Muhyiddin.

"If there are qualified schools, the number of HPS can reach at least 130 schools by 2015."

Muhyiddin stressed that the HPS programme was mooted as part of the Malaysia Education Blueprint to ensure all students could enjoy quality education in Malaysia on a par with other high-performance education systems in other countries.

1. Sekolah Menengah Sains Sultan Mahmud, Terengganu
2. Sekolah Menengah Sains Kepala Batas, Penang
3. Sekolah Menengah Sains Pokok Sena, Kedah
4. Sekolah Sains Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, Pahang
5. Sekolah Menengah Sains Hulu Selangor
6. Sekolah Menengah Sains Labuan
7. Sekolah Berasrama Penuh Integrasi Batu Rakit, Terengganu
8. Sekolah Berasrama Penuh Integrasi Selandar, Malacca
9. Sekolah Berasrama Penuh Integrasi Kuantan, Pahang
10. Kolej Sains Pendidikan Islam Kuala Terengganu
11. Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sultan Ismail, Johor
12. Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Infant Jesus Convent, Johor
13. Sekolah Kebangsaan Tengku Ampuan Intan, Terengganu
14. Sekolah Kebangsaan Zainab 1, Kelantan
15. Sekolah Kebangsaan Bertam Indah, Penang
16. Sekolah Kebangsaan Sultanah Asma, Kedah
17. Sekolah Kebangsaan Convent Infant Jesus (2), Malacca
18. Sekolah Kebangsaan Bandar Penawar 2, Johor
19. Sekolah Kebangsaan Sri Gaya, Sabah
20. Sekolah Kebangsaan (P) Methodist 2, Malacca
21. Sekolah Kebangsaan Bandar Maharani, Johor
22. Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Seri Indera, Perlis
23. Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Ave Maria Convent, Perak
24. Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Yok Bin, Malacca
25. Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Union, Penang



To ensure this could be achieved, he said, students, especially those in HPS, must show great performance in Mathematics, Science and the English language as well as possess a high level of thinking and problem-solving skills.

They should also be strong in co-curricular activities and have soft-skills, Muhyiddin added.

The HPS must lead the way and show that they were the success

story of the country's education system, which could improve by leaps and bounds to match systems in countries such as Singapore, Finland and China in the near future.

Muhyiddin said the HPS programme was open to all children in the country, providing them with a level playing field to compete with others to secure a brighter future.