

# Laptops for all students next year

## WIFI ACCESS, TOO: Schools to use IT in lessons to impart knowledge

KLANG: ALL national school students will be supplied laptops by next year. The schools will also have WiFi access to facilitate teaching and learning, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said yesterday. Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, said in developed countries, information technology had become a medium to impart knowledge. "I have proposed the use of IT in classrooms and the prime minister has agreed that all students will be supplied laptops. This is a commitment that has been included in the Barisan Nasional manifesto which we will fulfil."

He said details of how the laptops were to be supplied, including whether they would be on loan from schools, were not finalised. He said the Barisan Nasional government had always placed education as the country's most important agenda. This was evident from the one-fifth allocation in the national budget towards improving the country's education system.

"The Education Ministry receives 16 per cent of the budget while the Higher Education Ministry gets five per cent, meaning 21 per cent goes for education alone." Muhyiddin also stressed that only the BN government had the experience in ensuring Malaysia can achieve developed nation status within the next few years.

"To become a developed nation, we must be advanced in education and this responsibility is not just the government's, but there must be understanding and cooperation among all stakeholders," he said at a special meeting with Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil (SJKT) teachers at SJKT Simpang Lima in Taman Seri Andalas, here.