

NUTP Supports New Standard

KUALA LUMUR, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- The National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP), the country's biggest teachers organisation with 120,000 members, will ensure the success of the Malaysian Teachers Standard (MTS), its secretary-general, Lok Yim Pheng, said Thursday.

She told Bernama that this was something the union had been seeking for the past few years as it was in line with its policy to provide quality education to Malaysian children through highly qualified and dedicated teachers.

"Our members will certainly work closely with the Education Ministry, schools, colleges and training institutions to maintain and improve the standard set," she added.

The guidelines for the standard was unveiled by Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also Education Minister, in Tawau yesterday.

The guidelines would serve as a benchmark for some 300,000 teachers to function effectively in the classroom and require them to have three basic values -- teaching professionalism, knowledge and high teaching and learning skills.

Lok said that once the standard was set and clear guidelines were introduced, it would be easy for teachers to follow and implement.

At present this was lacking and it was sometimes difficult for teachers to deliver what was expected of them by the authorities and community at large, she said.

She hoped the guidelines would encourage teachers to be innovative and motivate them to develop and enhance their teaching skills and knowledge.

-- BERNAMA