

## PRIME NEWS

# Najib praises Community Chest for school aid

**LAUDABLE:** Private sector initiative a success

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**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday expressed hope that private-public partnerships like the Community Chest would continue funding selected schools in assisting the government to provide quality education and infrastructure for all.

Najib said while the government had always allocated the biggest chunk of its national budget for the education sector, there were many schools in Malaysia that still needed funds to provide better facilities for schoolchildren.

Najib was speaking at the official launch of the Community Chest's website and fund allocation for 80 vernacular and missionary schools from the Community Chest at Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) On Pong in Ampang near here.

"To ensure that facilities at all schools are satisfactory, we need additional sources of funding.

"I hope the Community Chest, which I launched in September last year, can help fulfil this need and help vernacular and missionary schools.

"However, this does not mean that the government is neglecting vernacular schools.

"We have, since 2009, provided RM1.2 billion for vernacular and missionary schools."

Najib said he was happy that the Community Chest had met his challenge and hit the target of RM100 million in donations to schools.

"They have exceeded my target by RM200,000 and I am sure they will do even better in the future."

Community Chest honorary trustee Tun Hanif Omar said the Community Chest had given out funds in three batches since September last year to deserving schools.

He said the Community Chest was an independent apolitical charitable organisation funded predominantly from the profits of Pan Malaysian Pools Sdn Bhd.

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**Datuk Seri Najib Razak**