



Education for all: Liow having fun with the special needs students after opening the new building at SJK (C) Sam Yoke in Kuala Lumpur

Liow: No one must be left out in country's education policies

KUALA LUMPUR: Not a single child, including the special needs ones, should be left out in the country's education policies, said MCA president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai.

Special needs children, once trained, would be able to perform as good or even better than the normal students, he added.

"Give them proper guidance and training and they can contribute to nation building," he said at the opening of the new building for Special Education Integration Programme at SJK (C) Sam Yoke here yesterday.

Liow also urged the Education Ministry to train more teachers for this purpose as these children needed extra care and attention. Liow also said that MCA would continue with its efforts to retain the current multi-stream education system and to ensure the continuous development of Chinese education in Malaysia.

He said a proposal had been raised in the Cabinet for school reserved lands to be opened to all types of schools.

Sam Yoke is the second Chinese primary school in town which provides special education. The other is SJK (C) Salak South.

The school has 50 special needs students.

The new four-storey building, worth RM3.5mil, was built with funds raised from the community. The Community Chest donated RM2mil.

At the event, Liow also witnessed the hand-

ing over of the Malaysia Book of Records certificate to special needs child Aaron Liew E. Jack, who set a record for being the first disabled student to win the international Wushu championships.

Last year, Liew won six gold medals at the Taiwan Yanhuang Cup World Wushu Championship; one gold, two silver and three bronze medals at the 6th Borneo International Martial Arts Tournament as well as one gold and one bronze prizes at The Hong Kong Wushu International Championship.

On party matters, Liow said MCA leaders would study if there was a need to postpone the party election, scheduled to be held next year.

He was asked if MCA would follow Umno in putting off the party election.

"I'm sure all parties have the same objective which is to ensure party unity and prepare well for the general election.

"The welfare of the people and the country's development are our utmost priority," he added.

On Friday, Umno president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced that the party election, also scheduled next year, would be postponed for 18 months to strengthen the Barisan Nasional ahead of the GE-14.

Later in Karak, Liow officiated a new school hall for SJK (C) Telemong.