

KERATAN AKHBAR

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Digital education yet to be the norm in national schools

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IR 4.0 has transformed the landscape of Education, especially in advanced countries.

In Malaysia, however, digital transformation and infrastructure remain inadequate, especially in national schools. Hence, I agree with Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah's view that our education system needs a major overhaul.

Besides improving our standard in English and deficient values system, we also need to increase funding for digital infrastructure in our

public schools.

During a visit to several national schools recently, I noticed that the classrooms were the same as mine was when I was a pupil 40 years ago. Chalk and talk was still the order of the day, and that made me question where IR 4.0 is in public classrooms in Malaysia.

It made me angry when the practical student whom I was observing used the chalk (in this case a whiteboard marker) and talk method in the classroom.

In university, students are taught instructional technologies such as digital software and apps and told to use them in the schools where they were assigned for their practical training.

When I asked why he wasn't using the tools that he had learnt, the student said there was not enough equipment available in the school for him to do so.

I didn't want to believe that after several Malaysia Plans, the Education Ministry has not been

given the budget to equip the national schools that we are so proud of.

Perhaps parent-teacher associations could help the schools in this regard.

Imagine if educators from Finland, Japan, the United States or United Kingdom asked to visit our national schools. Which one would we take them to?

CONCERNED EDUCATOR
Bangi