

MAHATHIR

Mahathir

1968

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 16 (BERNAMA) - THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY-FORMED HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL, DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMMAD, SAID TODAY THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD SUBMIT TWO REPORTS -- A MAJORITY AND A MINORITY REPORT -- TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON PROJECTS CONSIDERED BY THE COUNCIL.

HE TOLD BERNAMA TODAY THAT AS THE COUNCIL WAS REPRESENTED BY A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE POPULATION, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO REACH AN UNANIMOUS DECISION.

HE ADDED: +WE WILL PREPARE A MAJORITY AND A MINORITY REPORT. AS THE MINORITY IS UNLIKELY TO BE RECONCILED TO THE VIEWS OF THE MAJORITY.

+AS FAR AS POSSIBLE THERE WILL BE NO VOTING.+

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IT WAS UP TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION TO DECIDE WHICH REPORT TO ACCEPT. +HE MAY EVEN ACCEPT THE MINORITY REPORT,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THE COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOT BINDING ON THE MINISTER, AS IT WAS THERE ONLY TO ADVISE HIM.

BERNAMA MORE 1628.

MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR:

ON THE PENANG UNIVERSITY, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE COUNCIL HAD RECENTLY SET UP A COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY EDUCATION, UNDER PROFESSOR HAMZAH SENDUT, TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER IN GREATER DETAIL.

HE SAID THAT THE DELAY IN THE SETTING UP OF THE UNIVERSITY WAS DUE TO THE LACK OF MONEY AND STAFF.

THE PENANG UNIVERSITY, DR. MAHATHIR ADDED, WOULD BE OFFERING COURSES SUPPLEMENTARY TO THESE AVAILABLE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA.

HOWEVER, SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC SUBJECTS WOULD BE EMPHASISED AT THE PENANG UNIVERSITY.

HE SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING MORE SUBJECTS WHICH ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT THE UNIVERSITY IN PANTAI VALLEY.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE ON COLLEGE LEVEL EDUCATION WOULD CONSIDER THE SETTING UP OF A POLYTECHNIC IN IPOH AND ALSO JUNIOR COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY

2
ANOTHER COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES HAD BEEN SET UP TO CONSIDER THE COSTS AND THE MONEY NEEDED FOR THE PROJECTS CONSIDERED BY THE COUNCIL.

+IT IS UP TO THE MINISTER TO ASK FOR A VOTE FOR PROJECTS THAT THE COUNCIL HAVE SUGGESTED,+ HE ADDED.

BERNAMA MORE 1634

MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD +EVERY INTENTION TO PROVIDE THE TYPE OF EDUCATION NEEDED BY THE PEOPLE,+ BUT THE LIMITING FACTOR WAS THE MONEY AVAILABLE.

+EDUCATION IS ENCOURAGED AS LONG AS IT IS WITHIN THE NATION'S EDUCATION POLICY,+ HE ADDED.

ON THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE COUNCIL HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A MEMORANDUM FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S SPONSORS.

+WHEN THE COUNCIL RECEIVES THE MEMORANDUM, IT WILL DEBATE AND DISCUSS THE ISSUE BEFORE SUBMITTING ITS VIEWS ON THE MATTERS.+

MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR

WHEN CONTACTED, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA, TUAN SYED NASIR BIN ISMAIL, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD SUBMIT ITS MEMORANDUM TO THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL IN TWO OR THREE DAYS TIME.+

HE ADDED: +THE COMMITTEE IS STILL FINALISING THE DETAILS,+