

1974

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 19 (BERNAMA) — THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING A MORE EXTENSIVE PROGRAMME TO TRAIN TEMPORARY TEACHERS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, THE EDUCATION MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, TOLD THE DEWAN RAKYAT TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO THE PEKEMAS MEMBER FOR KEPONG, DR. TAN CHEE KHOON, WHO WANTED TO KNOW THE MINISTRY'S PLANS TO TRAIN THE 12,000 TEMPORARY TEACHERS.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE PROGRAMME BEING CONSIDERED WAS AMONG THE THREE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE MINISTRY TO TRAIN THESE TEACHERS.

THE OTHER MEASURES WERE TRAINING DURING HOLIDAYS FROM TIME TO TIME FOR THOSE WHO FULFILLED THE REQUIRED CONDITIONS AND PROPER TRAINING FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY.

THE TATTER COULD APPLY TO THE EDUCATION SERVICE COMMISSION WHICH WOULD CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IN THE PRESS REGULARLY.

TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS BY DR. TAN, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THERE WAS SUCH A GREAT NUMBER OF TEMPORARY TEACHERS BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT ALL BE ABSORBED INTO THE TRAINING COLLEGES FOR TRAINING.

HE ADDED THAT THE RAPID EXPANSION OF EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY, RESULTING IN A 700 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS, FROM 10,000 TO 70,000 SINCE INDEPENDENCE, HAS ALSO MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO ENVISAGE THE EXACT REQUIREMENTS. —BERNAMA MORE 1740/IK

DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE A SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS BUT HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO OVERCOME THE SHORTAGE.

TO ANOTHER QUESTION BY ENCIK CHIAN HENG KAI (DAP-BATU GAJAH) DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE MINISTRY HAD NO PLANS TO HAVE SEPARATE COURSES TO TRAIN TEACHERS WHO WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO NATIONAL TYPE PRIMARY CHINESE SCHOOLS.

THIS WAS BECAUSE THE EXISTING TEACHING COURSES WOULD ENSURE A HIGH STANDARD OF TEACHING IN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

THE CANDIDATES, HE ADDED, WOULD BE REQUIRED TO MEET SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS IN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE. —BERNAMA 1745/IK