

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 25 (BERNAMA)— REMOVE CLASS PUPILS WILL GET FREE EDUCATION FROM NEXT YEAR BECAUSE THEY ARE REGARDED AS BEING WITHIN THE MAINSTREAM OF NATIONAL EDUCATION.

EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAYS THE MOVE IS IN KEEPING WITH THE FREE EDUCATION POLICY ENJOYED BY NATIONAL SCHOOLS. THE BENEFIT WILL BE EXTENDED TO FORM ONE PUPILS OF NATIONAL TYPE ENGLISH SCHOOLS IN 1976.

IT WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN LINE WITH THE CONVERSION OF THE SEKOLAH MENENGAH JENIS KERANGSAAN (INGGERIS) INTO THE SEKOLAH MENENGAH KEBANGSAAN, SO THAT BY 1982, ALL PUPILS OF NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM SCHOOLS FEES.

OPENING THE CONFERENCE OF STATE DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION HERE, HE SAID THAT A NEW EDUCATION CURRICULUM HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR USE IN ALL REMOVE CLASSES FROM NEXT YEAR WHEN BAHASA MALAYSIA BECAME THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FOR THEM.

THE STEP WAS TO ENABLE PUPILS OF SUCH CLASSES TO LEARN BAHASA MALAYSIA MORE EFFECTIVELY AND GET A GOOD GROUNDING IN THE LANGUAGE.

— BERNAMA MORE 1532/MD

MAHATHIR-CLASS 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THEY WOULD THEREFORE NOT BE LEFT BEHIND WHEN CONTINUING WITH THEIR EDUCATION INTO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN 1976.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO REFERED TO POSTINGS OF NEW TEACHERS, EXCHANGES OF TEACHERS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND VANDALISM IN SCHOOLS.

ON POSTINGS OF NEW TEACHERS, HE SAID THAT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY WAS STARTED EARLY THIS YEAR TO DETERMINE THE POSITION OF TRAINED TEACHERS IN EVERY STATE.

THE POSTINGS WOULD BE BASED ON TEACHER NEEDS OF EACH STATE.

BY THE END OF THE YEAR, 3,745 NEW TEACHERS WOULD HAVE GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITIES AND TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGES. 1,252 GRADUATE TEACHERS, 1,051 LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, 963 PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, 71 VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL TEACHERS, 17 COMMERCIAL SUBJECT TEACHERS AND 391 BAHASA MALAYSIA TEACHERS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS. —BERNAMA MORE 1535/IK

MAHATHIR-CLASS 3 KUALA LUMPUR

THE STUDY, HE SAID, WOULD FACILITATE THE TEACHER POSTING SYSTEM AND IDENTIFY STATES WITH TEACHER SHORTAGES.

ON THE EXCHANGE OR TRANSFER OF TEACHERS, HE SAID THAT 1,080 TRANSFERS HAD BEEN APPROVED BY HIS MINISTRY. MORE WOULD BE EFFECTED BY STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR

DR. MAHATHIR HOPED THE TRANSFER PROGRAMME WOULD STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN NEEDS OF TEACHERS IN RURAL AND IN URBAN AREAS AND BETWEEN STATES IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA.

ON STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, HE CALLED FOR A CLOSE STUDY OF THE PHENOMENON. —BERNAMA 1540/IK

MAHATHIR-CLASS 4 KUALA LUMPUR

MEASURES SHOULD ALSO BE FORMULATED TO PREVENT VANDALISM IN SCHOOL.

HE ALSO PROPOSED A +SCHOOL ADOPTION+ PROGRAMME IN WHICH BIG AND RICH SCHOOLS COULD HELP SMALL RURAL SCHOOLS OF THEIR CHOICE.

—BERNAMA 1542/IK