

114:
MAHATHIR - TEACHERS (BERNAMA EX)

P KUALA LUMPUR, FEB. 3 (BERNAMA) — EDUCATION MINISTER (DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED) ASSURED TODAY THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE PLIGHT OF CERTAIN UNDER-QUALIFIED TEMPORARY TEACHERS AFFECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S TERMINATION ACTION.

A MAJORITY OF THESE TEACHERS ARE LCE-QUALIFIED AND THEIR SERVICES ARE TO BE TERMINATED UNDER A MINISTRY RULING.

THE RULING REQUIRES TEMPORARY TEACHERS TO HAVE CREDITS IN THREE SUBJECTS, INCLUDING BAHASA MALAYSIA, IN THE MCE RPT M.C.E. EXAMINATION IF THEY WANT TO CONTINUE TEACHING.

DR. MAHATHIR GAVE THIS ASSURANCE AFTER DISCUSSING WITH MIC OFFICIALS THE PLIGHT OF ABOUT 70 TAMIL SCHOOL TEMPORARY TEACHERS MOSTLY FROM PERAK AND KEDAH, WHO FACE TERMINATION OF SERVICE.

THE TEACHERS' PREDICAMENT IS CONTAINED IN THE MIC MEMORANDUM ON THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION POLICY, WHICH DR. MAHATHIR HAD EARLIER RECEIVED FROM MIC DEPUTY PRESIDENT, DATUK ATHI NAHAPPAN.

AT THE DISCUSSION, ENCIK G. VADIVELOO, CHAIRMAN OF THE MIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE, POINTED OUT THE PROBLEM OF SUCH TEMPORARY TEACHERS. — BERNAMA MORE 1914/AI

13

115:
MAHATHIR-TEACHERS 2 KUALA LUMPUR (EX)

HE SAID THE TEACHERS, SOME OF WHOM HAD SERVED FOR AT LEAST 12 YEARS, WOULD FACE DIFFICULTY IN FINDING OTHER MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD IF THEIR SERVICES WERE TERMINATED.

DR. MAHATHIR REPLIED THAT TEMPORARY TEACHERS ALWAYS FACED THE POSSIBILITY OF SERVICE TERMINATION BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE REPLACED BY QUALIFIED TEACHERS.

+ IF THESE TEMPORARY TEACHERS CAN QUALIFY AS PERMANENT TEACHERS, THEIR SERVICES WILL NOT BE TERMINATED, + HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, FROM THIS YEAR THOSE WITH THE REQUIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS WOULD BE RECRUITED AS TEMPORARY TEACHERS.

THE MINISTER ALSO SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO POSSIBLE RELAXATION OF ENTRY REQUIREMENTS INTO FORM SIX FOR INDIAN STUDENTS FROM RURAL AREAS. THIS IS ANOTHER POINT RAISED IN THE MEMORANDUM.

THE MIC IS SEEKING ADMISSION INTO FORM SIX FOR STUDENTS WITH 10 POINTS FROM THREE OF THEIR BEST SUBJECTS. THE PRESENT ENTRY REQUIREMENT IS EIGHT POINTS. — BERNAMA MORE 1912/ZCM

116:
MAHATHIR-TEACHERS 3 KUALA LUMPUR (EX)

THE MEMORANDUM ALSO TOUCHED ON:

- + THE INCREASED USE OF BAHASA MALAYSIA IN TAMIL SCHOOLS,
- + THE TEACHING OF TAMIL TO INDIAN PUPILS IN NATIONAL AND NATIONAL-TYPE SECONDARY SCHOOLS DURING NORMAL SCHOOL HOURS IF MORE THAN 10 PUPILS WISH TO STUDY THE LANGUAGE,

- + GROUPING OF TAMIL SCHOOLS FOR BETTER CLASSROOM FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND STAFF,

- + THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS FOR TAMIL SCHOOLS, AND
- + THE INTAKE OF INDIAN PUPILS INTO HIGHER EDUCATION TO BE PROPORTIONATE WITH THE INDIAN POPULATION.

OTHERS PRESENT AT THE DISCUSSION WERE MIC SECRETARY-GENERAL, ENCIK S. SUBRAMANIAM, MP FOR SUNGAI SIPUT, ENCIK S. SAMYVELLU, MP FOR TELOK KEMANG, ENCIK K. PATHMANABAN, AND MIC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ENCIK A. DORAI RAJ. — BERNAMA 1914/ZCM