

69:
EDUCATION

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 22 (BERNAMA) — THE FEDERAL AND SARAWAK GOVERNMENTS HAVE AGREED TO IMPLEMENT THE EDUCATION ACT, 1961, WITH MODIFICATIONS IN SARAWAK FROM JAN. 1 IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO MAKE BAHASA MALAYSIA THE TEACHING MEDIUM IN ALL ENGLISH SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY.

EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID THIS BEFORE LEAVING FOR AN 11-DAY PRIVATE VISIT TO INDONESIA TODAY.

HE SAID THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BAHASA MALAYSIA AS A TEACHING MEDIUM IN SARAWAK WOULD BE IN STAGES IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA.

BAHASA MALAYSIA WAS PRESENTLY BEING TAUGHT ONLY AS A SUBJECT IN SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT, IT WOULD BECOME A COMPULSORY SUBJECT IN STANDARD ONE CLASSES IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS, DR. MAHATHIR SAID.

HE SAID THE MINISTRY PLANNED TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE COURSES TO TRAIN TEACHERS IN SARAWAK AS WELL AS THOSE IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA TO MEET THE SHORTAGE OF BAHASA MALAYSIA TEACHERS. — BERNAMA MORE 1750/ZCM

70:
EDUCATION 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ADDED THAT BAHASA MALAYSIA WOULD BECOME THE TEACHING MEDIUM IN STANDARD ONE IN ALL ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SARAWAK ONCE THERE WERE ENOUGH TEACHERS FOR PURPOSE.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID AN INTERIM COMMITTEE HAD BEEN FORMED TO STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT IN SABAH.

+BAHASA MALAYSIA IS ALREADY BEING TAUGHT IN MOST SCHOOLS IN THE STATE AND IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE ACT WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THEM, + HE SAID. — BERNAMA 1752/ZCM