

NO96 (F)  
MAHATHIR-COUNCIL (BERNAMA EX)  
FM

BY ZAILANI SULAIMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 26 (BERNAMA)--THE ISLAMIC EDUCATION AFFAIRS ADVISORY COUNCIL WHICH WAS SET UP TO STUDY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTES OF HIGHER LEARNING WILL BE MADE PERMANENT ADVISORY COUNCIL TO THE EDUCATION MINISTER.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED TOLD BERNAMA TODAY HE WOULD NEED THE COUNCIL'S VIEWS ON PROBLEMS PERTAINING TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

THE COUNCIL, HEADED BY MARDI DIRECTOR-GENERAL TAN SRI HAJI MOHAMED JAMIL, HAS JUST COMPLETED ITS REPORT WHICH WAS HANDED TO DR. MAHATHIR THIS AFTERNOON.

THE COUNCIL WAS SET UP BY THE GOVERNMENT ON OCT. 1, 1974, SPECIFICALLY TO STUDY, ADVISE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ISLAMIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS UNDER THE EDUCATION MINISTRY.  
--BERNAMA MORE 1815/MD

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ITS REPORT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SUGGESTS:  
+ THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELIGIOUS TEACHERS' COLLEGE;  
+ MORE TIME FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES IN SCHOOLS;  
+ AUDIO-VISUAL AID IN THE TEACHING OF ISLAMIC STUDIES; AND  
+ A PRACTICAL SYLLABUS.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE REPORT WOULD BE STUDIED BY HIS MINISTRY AND THE PRACTICAL PROPOSALS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

HE WAS KEEN ON THE IDEA OF SETTING UP A TRAINING COLLEGE FOR RELIGIOUS TEACHERS NEXT YEAR. --BERNAMA MORE 1818/MD

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THE OFFICIAL HANDING OVER OF THE REPORT WAS HELD AT A SPECIAL MEETING ATTENDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND EDUCATION MINISTRY SENIOR OFFICIALS.

THE MINISTRY'S SECRETARY-GENERAL, DATUK ABDUL KADIR TALIB, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL (1) OF EDUCATION DATUK ABDUL RAHMAN ARSHAD WERE PRESENT.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE COUNCIL, IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE REPORT, HAD RECEIVED PROPOSALS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

HE SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF UPGRADING THE STANDARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, THE COUNCIL WOULD BE PLACED ON A PERMANENT FOOTING. --BERNAMA 1822/MD