

MAHATHIR  
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KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 23 (BERNAMA) -- THE EDUCATION MINISTRY WILL TAKE OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF 10 RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS FROM STATE GOVERNMENTS FROM NEXT MONTH, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

TWO OF THE SCHOOLS ARE IN MALACCA, TWO IN KELANTAN AND ONE EACH IN PERLIS, PENANG, SELANGOR, NEGRI SEMBILAN, JOHORE AND TRENGGANU.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID THIS WHEN HE RECEIVED A CHEQUE FOR MORE THAN \$52,300 FROM THE SAUDI ARABIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES TO MALAYSIA, DATUK MOHAMED Y. TRABOULSI, FOR THE ISLAMIC COLLEGE'S LANGUAGE LABORATORY.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE EDUCATION MINISTRY WOULD SET UP TWO RELIGIOUS SECONDARY SCHOOLS - ONE IN SABAH AND THE OTHER IN SARAWAK - FROM NEXT MONTH.

HE SAID THE TAKING OVER OF THE SCHOOLS WAS TO ENABLE THE MINISTRY TO PROVIDE MORE EFFECTIVE SERVICES IN ADMINISTERING THEM TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF ISLAMIC AND ARABIC TEACHINGS.

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE MINISTRY WOULD MAKE USE OF ITS EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING THE ISLAMIC COLLEGE TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS TAKEN OVER BY IT.

TO HELP STUDENTS MASTER ARABIC EASIER, THE MINISTRY HAD ALSO AGREED TO SET UP A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE SYLLABUS FOR THE LANGUAGE FOR THE SRP AND SPM EXAMINATIONS, HE ADDED.

THE COMMITTEE WOULD HAVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MINISTRY, UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA AND UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN. --BERNAMA 1323/BY