

MAHATHIR

ALOR SETAR, DEC. 6 (BERNAMA) -- SIJIL PELAJARAN MALAYSIA EXAMINATION FEES MAY BE REDUCED WHEN THE EDUCATION MINISTRY TAKES OVER THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATION SYNDICATE FROM 1980.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DATUK SERI (DR.) MAHATHIR MOHAMMAD SAID TODAY THE MINISTRY WOULD DO EVERYTHING TO REDUCE THE FEES AFTER THE TAKEOVER TO EASE THE BURDEN OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS. HE MADE THE DISCLOSURE IN A SPEECH READ BY HIS POLITICAL SECRETARY, ENCIK MEGAT JUNID BIN MEGAT AYOB, AT THE OPENING OF THE DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHING PROFESSION, PENINSULAR MALAYSIA AT THE SULTAN ABDUL HAMID COLLEGE HERE. A TOTAL OF 120 DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS ARE ATTENDING THE THREE-DAY MEETING.

DATUK SERI MAHATHIR REITERATED THAT AS FROM 1980 THE MALAYSIAN CERTIFICATE EDUCATION EXAMINATION (MCE) WOULD CEASE AND ONLY THE SPM EXAMINATION WOULD BE HELD. --- BERNAMA-MORE-1999/ZCM

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HE SAID WITH THE TAKE OVER, THERE WOULD BE MORE WORK FOR THE MINISTRY AS WELL AS THE TEACHERS.

+ I HOPE ALL TEACHERS, MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND THE PEOPLE WOULD GIVE THEIR FULLEST COOPERATION TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TAKE OVER OF THE EXAMINATION, + DATUK SERI MAHATHIR SAID.

HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT TEACHERS IN THE COUNTRY WERE NOW WELL PREPARED TO TAKE OVER THE EXAMINATION, FORMERLY HANDLED BY THE CAMBRIDGE SYNDICATE.

THE MINISTRY HAD STUDIED CLOSELY ALL IMPLICATIONS OF THE TAKE OVER. THESE INCLUDED PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES TO EXAMINERS.

THE MINISTRY WOULD CONSIDER INCREASING THE ALLOWANCES, DATUK SERI MAHATHIR ADDED. --- BERNAMA 1438/ZCM