

EDUCATION-REPORT 79 79
EM

BY SHUKOR HAJI AHMAD AND AHMAT WAHAB

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 14 (BERNAMA) — THE CERTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE SRP AND SPM EXAMINATIONS IS TO BE CHANGED TO AN OPEN SYSTEM UNDER WHICH GRADINGS WILL BE ABOLISHED.

THIS MEANS THERE WILL NOT BE ANY MORE GRADES +A+, +B+ AND +C+ FOR THE SRP OR ONE, TWO AND THREE FOR THE SPM.

UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM, ONLY THE LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE IN SUBJECTS PASSED WILL BE INDICATED IN THE CERTIFICATES.

THIS IS ONE OF THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ANNOUNCED BY DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HERE TODAY.

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT RECOMMENDATION IS THE EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD OF BASIC EDUCATION FROM NINE YEARS TO 11 YEARS. HOWEVER, THIS IS A LONG-TERM OBJECTIVE. — BERNAMA MORE 1926/LK

N103: (F)

EDUCATION-REPORT 2 KUALA LUMPUR 79 79

THE REPORT ALSO RECOMMENDS THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE SYSTEM OF HAVING ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNICAL STREAMS AT THE UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL. INSTEAD, THERE WILL ONLY BE TWO STREAMS — ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, CHAIRMAN OF THE SEVEN-MEMBER CABINET COMMITTEE, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE THAT THE CERTIFICATION SYSTEM BASED ON GRADES HAD BEEN FOUND TO BE NO LONGER SUITABLE.

FOR EXAMPLE, A PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER WOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO A GRADE +A+ HOLDER ALTHOUGH A GRADE +B+ APPLICANT MIGHT HAVE BETTER RESULTS IN SUBJECTS RELEVANT TO THE JOB.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS EXPECTED TO TAKE TWO TO THREE YEARS. — BERNAMA MORE 1929/LK

EDUCATION-REPORT 3 KUALA LUMPUR 79 79

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD OF BASIC EDUCATION FROM NINE TO 11 YEARS WAS A LONG-TERM OBJECTIVE.

ITS IMPLEMENTATION WOULD DEPEND ON THE CAPABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS EXTENSION WAS TO ENABLE FOR THREE PUPILS WHO FAILED TO BE PROMOTED TO FORM FOUR TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THIS MOVE WAS TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM OF YOUNGSTERS AGED AROUND 15 HAVING TO ENTER THE EMPLOYMENT MARKET.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS MEASURE WAS EXPECTED TO INVOLVE THE PROVISION OF AT LEAST 1,000 ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS TO ACCOMMODATE THE RETAINED PUPILS. — BERNAMA MORE 1930/LK
EDUCATION — REPORT 4 KUALA LUMPUR '金'金'金

ON THE MOVE TO HAVE ONLY ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL STREAMS AT THE UPPER SECONDARY LEVEL, HE SAID THE COMMITTEE FELT THAT THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF HAVING ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNICAL STREAMS WAS NOT IN LINE WITH THE GENERAL EDUCATION CONCEPT.

THE METHOD OF SELECTING PUPILS FOR THE VARIOUS STREAMS HAD ALSO BEEN FOUND TO HAVE SEVERAL WEAKNESSES.

THE SRP OR LCE EXAMINATION WAS MORE A PERFORMANCE TEST THAN A TEST TO GAUGE TALENTS AND INTEREST. AS SUCH THE RESULTS COULD BE NOT USED AS THE CRITERIA FOR STREAMING.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE COMMITTEE ALSO FELT THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY AT THIS JUNCTURE TO PUT THE STUDENTS INTO VARIOUS STREAMS AS THEIR TALENTS AND INTEREST HAD YET TO BE DETERMINED. — BERNAMA MORE 2047/AZ

N118 (F)

EDUCATION — REPORT 5 KUALA LUMPUR

STREAMING AT THIS LEVEL ALSO HAD NO RELEVANCE TO EMPLOYMENT AS SPM AND MCE HOLDERS WERE NOT INTO TAKEN EMPLOYMENT BASED ON THEIR EDUCATION STREAM.

HE SAID THAT TO ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOVE TO HAVE ONLY THE ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL STREAMS, MORE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WOULD BE BUILT.

UNDER THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN, 24 MORE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WOULD BE BUILT.

ON THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AT THE LOWER LEVEL, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED A MORE ORDERLY SYSTEM OF REMEDIAL TEACHING TO STRENGTHEN EDUCATION AT THIS LEVEL. PUPILS WOULD BE EXPOSED TO VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION WHICH WOULD NOT BE CONFINED ONE SUBJECT. -- BERNAMA MORE

2050/AZ

EDUCATION - REPORT 6 KUALA LUMPUR

THE CURRICULUM FOR THE ACADEMIC SCHOOLS WOULD EMPHASISE ON GENERAL EDUCATION WHILE THAT FOR THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WOULD BE BIASED TOWARDS PREPARING PUPILS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT MARKET.

TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, THE TRAINING DURATION AT TEACHERS' COLLEGES WOULD BE EXTENDED FROM TWO TO THREE YEARS.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID COURSES AT POLYTECHNICS WOULD ALSO BE DIVERSIFIED TO KEEP UP WITH INCREASING AND CHANGING DEMANDS.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO CONSIDERED IN-DEPTH THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM WHICH MADE IT COMPULSORY FOR ALL MUSLIM PUPILS TO TAKE ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE.

THE NON-MUSLIM PUPILS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE A NEW SUBJECT - MORAL AND ETHICS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WOULD BE COMPULSORY FOR BOTH THE MUSLIM AND NON-MUSLIM PUPILS TO SIT FOR EXAMINATIONS IN THE SUBJECT RELEVANT TO THEM. -- BERNAMA MORE

2053/AZ

N120 (F)
EDUCATION--REPORT 7 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR STUDENTS TO BE EXPOSED TO ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE THROUGH CLASS WORK AND EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES.

PUPILS WOULD ALSO BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN MASS PHYSICAL EXERCISES AND OTHER GROUP ACTIVITIES SUCH AS BIG WALKS AND TEAM EVENTS.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID PRIVATE SCHOOLS WOULD ALSO BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE SAME CURRICULUM UP TO THE FORM FIVE LEVEL.

THE COMMITTEE FELT THAT THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM SHOULD EMPHASISE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUPILS' ATTITUDES, SENSITIVITIES, SENTIMENTS, EMOTIONS AND OTHER QUALITIES. --

BERNAMA MORE 2056/AZ

READ SECOND PARA...OTHER G GROUP ACTIVITIES SUCH AS BIG WALKS....

N121 (F)
EDUCATION--REPORT 8 KUALA LUMPUR

THE ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION WOULD BE STREAMLINED WITH THE CREATION OF A SYSTEM OF COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION FOR THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

AMONG THE EFFORTS TO BE CARRIED OUT WOULD BE TO MERGE THE SMALLER SCHOOLS WHICH WERE ACADEMICALLY NOT VIABLE.

THIS WOULD INVOLVE TAMIL SCHOOLS IN THE ESTATES AND OTHER SMALL SCHOOLS IN THE KAMPUNGS.

THE MOVE WOULD ALSO ENTAIL THE PROVISION OF HOSTEL AND OTHER FACILITIES.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT WERE EDUCATION MINISTER DATUK MUSA HITAM, DEFENCE MINISTER DATUK AMAR HAJI ABDUL TAIB MAHMUD, TRANSPORT MINISTER DATUK LEE SAN CHOON AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER, DATUK K. PATHAMANABAN. -- BERNAMA 2059/AZ