

CNS1483

R GE 08-03 00164 EG165

eng mes

Mahathir-English

br.

KUALA LUMPUR, March 8, (Bernama) -- The government may make English Language a compulsory subject in examinations if the standard of the language among students continues to deteriorate, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today. (P)

The prime minister, expressing anxiety over the deterioration in the standard of the language, said it was necessary to master English along with Bahasa Malaysia.

+In this modern era, knowledge of one language only was insufficient, and the English Language is recognised as an international language,+ he told reporters here.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he hoped that the necessary measures would be taken by the Education Ministry, parents and teachers to upgrade the use of English among students.

He also said that proposals had been made repeatedly by various quarters to make a pass in the English Language compulsory in examinations but the government had not yet made a decision. -- more

♥08/03/14-38MST

R GE 08-03 00085 EG166

eng mes

Mahathir-English 2 Kuala Lumpur

+But if the situation worsens, we may have to determine whether to make it a compulsory subject,+ he said.

The English Language is a compulsory subject in class but not in examinations. A student can pass the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination even without a pass in the English Language paper.

The prime minister said he would leave it to the Education Ministry to take further action. -- Bernama

♥08/03/14-38MST