

25 FEB 2001

CONFIRM IF CABINET HAS MADE BREAKTHROUGH ON CHINESE EDUCATION, SAYS DAP

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 25 (Bernama) -- DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang said today that confirmation should be forthcoming from MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong on whether a breakthrough decision on the building of more Chinese primary schools was made at last week's Cabinet meeting.

He said all major Chinese newspapers reported on Thursday, quoting an MCA minister as having said, that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir had agreed at last Wednesday's cabinet meeting that the government should build more Chinese primary schools to meet the demand for Chinese education.

"But Ling has nothing to say about such a "historic breakthrough for the future of Chinese education", raising the question as to whether such a "historic breakthrough" actually took place at the last Cabinet meeting," he said in a statement here.

Lim was commenting on the assurance given by Lin yesterday that all pledges made during the 1999 general elections for Chinese education, including the building of new schools and relocation of Chinese primary schools, will be fulfilled.

Meanwhile in a separate statement, DAP secretary general Kerk Kim Hock said that the party has appointed its Cheras MP Tan Kok Wai to head the "Defend Mother Tongue Education Committee".

The committee will organise a series of conferences and seminars to establish a consensus on a "New Deal for Mother Tongue Education in the Eight Malaysia Plan".

-- BERNAMA

MUN RV DVS