

Check facts first before giving views, says Musa

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KUALA LUMPUR: Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad has described the Senai Umno division's move to table a no-confidence motion against him as "normal".

Pointing out that education matters were decided by the Cabinet, he said Umno members had the right to voice their views but it should be presented to the supreme council or during the Umno general assembly where he would have a chance to reply.

Musa said a person must check his facts thoroughly before giving his opinion.

"But I find that many people speak their mind without referring to facts," he said at the Parliament lobby.

On Wednesday, the division

passed a no-confidence vote against Musa, claiming that he had failed to protect the interests of bumiputra students.

Its chief, Adam Abdul Hamid, said Musa had affected bumiputra students' chances of pursuing their education by giving a 10% quota to non-bumiputra students to enter Mara science junior colleges.

When asked to comment on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that science and mathematics would be taught in English from next year, Musa said a committee was now studying the implementation.

In a separate function, parliamentary secretary to the Education Ministry Datuk

Mahadzir Khir urged everyone to give the committee time to find the best way to implement the decision.

The ministry would issue a statement on the matter as soon as possible, Mahadzir said after opening a counselling seminar.

The committee would be headed by Director-General of Education Datuk Abdul Rafie Mahat. One of the challenges the ministry has to resolve is the shortage of teachers who are proficient in English.

In Johor Baru the Pontian Umno division chief Hasni Mohamad said the Senai Umno division's resolution was not a collective decision by Johor Umno.