

English usage details to be revealed today

STAR 28 JUL 2002

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the teaching of Mathematics and Science in English would be implemented in stages at national schools by next year.

He said he was happy with the report made by the Cabinet committee which was studying the matter.

Dr Mahathir said Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad would make an announcement today.

"Actually, we have yet to finish discussing the matter. There are still some things that we need to discuss in the Cabinet."

Asked whether a decision had been made, Dr Mahathir said: "We have found indications on the methods on how to implement them.

"There are small problems. If

we implement them at all types of schools altogether, it will be a bit difficult.

"So we have to study first," Dr Mahathir said after attending the theatre "Anugerah" at the City Hall auditorium last night.

He said no decision had been made to implement the teaching of English in Chinese and Tamil schools. He said bilingual languages could be used during examinations.

When contacted after a special Cabinet meeting yesterday, Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad told *The Star* that "a decision has been reached" but declined to comment further.

Director-General of Education Datuk Abdul Rafie Mahat said "very good news" would be announced. "Wait," he said, when asked to elaborate on the outcome of the meeting.