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Umno club members assured about teaching of Maths and Science in English

UMNO deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has assured Umno Club members overseas that all necessary steps would be taken to ensure the smooth implementation of the teaching of Mathematics and Science in English next year.

He said the details were being worked out by the Education Ministry and the Government would ensure the necessary framework was well in place by next year.

"Teaching capabilities and all relevant books will be provided," he said during a question and answer session with overseas Umno Clubs members after a luncheon at the Putra World Trade Centre.

A member had earlier expressed concern over how the Government was going to implement the teaching of Maths and Science in English from next year.

Abdullah, who is the Deputy Prime Minister, said there had been those who expressed their concern that the Malay language would be neglected when this was implemented.

"There is no cause for concern. We will never let this happen and you can rest assured that Umno will do all necessary to ensure this."

He said the Government understood that such a move required tremendous effort and anticipated some teething problems.

"Decisions have been made and all details had been scrutinised. There will be some problems and we will be ready to resolve it."

He also said students should pay more attention to the use of Information Technology as this was critical in ensuring the future development of the country.

Also present at the luncheon was Barisan Nasional secretary-general Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat.

Asked about threats from foreign elements, like the Kumpulan Militan Malaysia, Abdullah said one could not expect Malaysia to progress in a safe, unchallenged environment all the time.

"We cannot allow these outside factors to cocoon us. If this happens, one day when we emerge as a beautiful butterfly, we will find that we are defenceless and quickly swallowed by the outside world," he said.

He said we must understand all that was going on around us.

"I am saddened with the KMM issue, some of them are well-educated, but they still chose to become members.

"Their beliefs were clouded and they lost all direction of what they were fighting for.

"However, we cannot allow ourselves to become pawns in a global chess game where we are pushed around everywhere. We have to take the necessary action, even if it requires the use of force."

Abdullah said even when the country was hit by the 1997 economic crisis, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad stood his ground and in the end, proved to the world what the country, under his leadership, was capable of.

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