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Mahathir-English

THOSE WHO AGREE ON ENGLISH MOVE ARE SILENT, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that there are those in the Chinese community who want their children to master the English language but choose to be silent on the matter.

Referring to a news report today which revealed that thousands of Malaysian Chinese students were enrolled in Singaporean schools which use English as the medium of instruction, he said this showed that they concurred with the government's move to teach Science and Mathematics in English in schools in this country.

"This shows that there are people in the Chinese community who agree. There are others who do not agree.

"But the ones who agree do not say anything," he told a media conference after opening the Malaysian Felda Generation Assembly and Symposium here.

The report quoted the Federation of Peninsula Malay Students (GPMS) president Datuk Suhaimi Ibrahim as saying that the Malaysian students enrolled themselves at secondary schools in Singapore for the sake of getting their education in English.

The government has announced its intention to use English to teach Science and Mathematics starting next year but the move has raised concern among certain segments of the society, including Chinese educational groups and political parties.

-- BERNAMA

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