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Mahathir-Meet
PRIME MINISTER TO MEET ACCCIM ON ENGLISH ISSUE

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 1 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to meet members of the Associated Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Malaysia (ACCCIM) tomorrow to discuss the proposal to use English in the teaching of science and mathematics at all primary schools next year.

ACCCIM president Tan Sri Lim Guan Teck said the meeting would be held at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya in the afternoon to discuss the proposal which had received mixed reaction from various communities in the country.

"We will meet the Prime Minister tomorrow, about 11 of us would be there to give our opinion on the matter," he told Bernama when contacted today.

However, he declined to reveal the ACCCIM stand or opinion on the issue and said it was not appropriate for them to disclose the matter since it would be brought to the Prime Minister for the discussion.

"What I can say is to confirm that there would be meeting and I will lead the delegation to meet the Prime Minister tomorrow," Lim said.

An aide to the Prime Minister, when contacted by Bernama tonight, said the meeting would be held at the Prime Minister's Department at 4pm.

"They (ACCCIM members) will meet the Prime Minister at his office at 4pm tomorrow, but it is a closed-door meeting," he said.

According to sources who declined to be identified, the meeting was called as part of the efforts by the Prime Minister to hear the suggestion from the community on the implementation of the proposals.

The aide said the delegation led by Lim would include seven state ACCCIM chairmen together with several members from prominent Chinese associations in the country.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir said the government would go ahead with its decision to use English to teach science and mathematics in schools next year as planned.

However, he said the government still welcomed public views on the matter but at the same time was making preparation to implement the policy.

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