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Tamil body to give alternative views on teaching in English

IPOH, Sun. - The Malaysian Tamil Education, Research and Development Foundation will provide alternative views to the Government on the teaching of Science and Mathematics in English.

Foundation pro-tem committee member M.K. Kalaimany said the group had written to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to relay the views of parents and Tamil educationists.

Speaking today at a conference on the implication of using English to teach Mathematics and Science in Tamil schools, he said the Government would be sensitive to the views of all quarters before a decision is made.

On Sept 2, Dr Mahathir met a 20-member delegation, comprising representatives of the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia and seven major federations of clans and associations, which had the opportunity to express opinions on the issue.

Kalaimany said the foundation supported the Government's move to improve the standard of English in primary schools.

The meeting, attended by about 100 parent-teacher association representatives and linguists, unanimously passed resolutions calling on the Government to, among others, set aside more time to the teaching of English and make Tamil a compulsory subject for the ethnic group at the primary level.