

25/10/2002

Chinese-based BN parties to hold another meeting

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs. - Leaders of the four Chinese-based parties in the Barisan Nasional will hold another meeting in Kuala Lumpur tomorrow to further discuss proposed "modifications" in the usage of English to teach Science and Mathematics in all schools next year.

It would be their second meeting as they had met yesterday to discuss the matter.

The four parties are MCA, Gerakan, Sarawak United Peoples' Party (SUPP) and Sabah Progressive Party (SAPP). Another BN Chinese-based party, Liberal Democratic Party has declined to participate in the meeting.

SAPP deputy president Datuk Tham Nyip Shen, who is representing his party in the meeting, said tomorrow's meeting was a follow-up.

Tham, who is also Sabah Deputy Chief Minister, was speaking to reporters after attending the State Legislative Assembly sitting here.

He declined to give details of yesterday's meeting.

Dr Mahathir had after chairing a BN meeting on Monday said that the Chinese-based parties had asked for a week to decide on the proposed modifications.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik yesterday claimed that the Chinese-based parties were proposing that national-type Chinese schools be exempted from the teaching of the two subjects in English.