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Ling-Methods

CHINESE-BASED BN PARTIES TO WORK OUT METHODS IN ONE WEEK

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 22 (Bernama) -- MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik has given an assurance that Chinese-based parties in the Barisan Nasional (BN) would come up with their own methods on the teaching of Mathematics and Science in English in Chinese schools in one week.

The weeklong period was requested by the parties concerned during the BN Supreme Council meeting chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad here today.

Dr Ling said discussions among them would certainly be completed by then.

"We have one week to discuss the matter...we can have part English or we can have other examples," he told reporters when met after the meeting.

Dr Ling urged the media not to make any speculations as to whether the Chinese component parties would be able to complete their talks in the period given.

Speaking to reporters after today's meeting, Dr Mahathir, who is also BN chairman, said all BN component parties had agreed that both subjects be taught in English in all schools, including Chinese primary schools.

However, he said the methods would be different in Chinese schools with the Chinese-based parties given one week to come up with suggestions on how to go about it.

Meanwhile, MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said the party had agreed to the implementation of the proposal as it offered opportunities to Tamil school students to improve their educational standards, especially in English.

The use of English, he said, was not seen as sidelining the use of the mother tongue because 65 percent of the teaching of other subjects would still be in Tamil, he said.

However, MIC had suggested certain conditions for the government to consider, he said.

They include giving full aid to schools getting capital aid, repairing school buildings, upgrading the teaching of information technology (IT), computer facilities and the like.

-- BERNAMA

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