

29 OCT 2003

Musa-Mahathir

DR MAHATHIR'S RETIREMENT BIG LOSS TO EDUCATION SYSTEM, SAYS MUSA

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 29 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's retirement is a big loss to the country's education system as the Prime Minister has contributed a lot of ideas to improve the system, Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad said today.

He said the ideas mooted by Dr Mahathir while he was in the government helped improvise the country's education system.

"He has made immense contributions to the education system. The most touching is his idea to teach Mathematics and Science in English," he told reporters after chairing his ministry's post-cabinet meeting.

Among Dr Mahathir's ideas that have proven to be successful was the Mahathir Report, the Cabinet Committee Report when Dr Mahathir was the Education Minister in 1974, he said.

The report was instrumental in the introduction of many new programmes in the education system, including the Primary School New Curriculum (KBSR) and the Secondary School Integrated Curriculum (KBSM), he said.

He said under the "Look East Policy" introduced by Dr Mahathir, thousands of Malaysian students pursued higher education in Japan and South Korea.

It was also Dr Mahathir's idea to set up the International Islamic University Malaysia and Universiti Utara Malaysia in Sintok, Kedah, he said.

In conjunction with Dr Mahathir's retirement on Friday, Musa would deliver a special message, incorporating achievements of the country's education system from Dr Mahathir's ideas, at the assemblies to be held at all education institutions in the country tomorrow.

The message will be read out by headmasters and principals at the assembly, which will start at 9am.

The assemblies will be attended by six million students and employees in the education service.

Students' open letter to the Prime Minister will also be read out at the assemblies.

-- BERNAMA

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