

Speech of the Hon'ble Minister of Education,  
Enche' Hussein Onn, in connection with the  
Operating Expenses Estimate 1972 of the  
Ministry of Education in the Dewan Ra'ayat  
on ~~21st~~ January, 1972.

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Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I beg to move that the Operating Expenses Estimate of the Ministry of Education for \$606,508,081 under the following Supply Heads, stand part of the schedule:-

- (i) West Malaysia - Supply Head 18 comprising of \$545,460,431 of which \$49,531,721 is for Personal Emoluments and Other Charges such as Services and Supplies and Acquisition of Capital Assets, and \$495,927,710 is for Grants and Fixed Charges.
- (ii) East Malaysia - Supply Head 19 comprising of \$61,047,650 of which \$28,966,530 is for Personal Emoluments and Other Charges such as Services and Supplies and Acquisition of Capital Assets, and \$32,081,120 is for Grants and Fixed Charges.

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

2. This total sum of \$606.5 million exceeds the 1971 provision by \$78.2 million. The Operating Expenses provision is allocated according to the activities carried out by the Ministry of Education namely, General Administration, Primary and Secondary Education, Teacher Training, Conduct of Examinations, Post-Secondary/Higher Education, Scholarships/Bursaries/Training Awards, Welfare of Students Overseas, and Public Services and Regional Education.

3. This increase in the total provision is unavoidable and it is due to a number of factors such as the increase in the school enrolment from year to year, the normal increase in the annual salaries of teachers and school staff and the increase in the number of trained teachers with Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia/Overseas School Certificate qualifications resulting in higher salaries compared to those of temporary teachers whom they replace. Apart from that, this increase in the expenditure on education is needed for carrying out the following objectives:-

- (i) consolidation of the National Education system to promote national unity;
- (ii) expansion and orientation of educational and training programmes to meet the country's demand for skilled manpower;
- (iii) improvement of the quality of education to bring forth an advanced community based on science and technology; and
- (iv) improvement in research, planning and implementation methods in order to achieve the above objectives.

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

4. With your permission I would like to speak briefly on some of the achievements made during 1971 and the programmes to be implemented in 1972. In regard to this I do not propose to explain the details of each item in the estimates.

A. General Administration - \$15,609,709

5. A provision of \$15.6 million is required to carry out the activities of the General Administration. These include the activities of finance, service and establishment, planning and research, scholarships and training, examinations and so on. This provision is allocated to 12 Divisions in the Ministry's Headquarters and 13 State Education Departments including the Education Departments in East Malaysia.

B. Primary and Secondary Education - \$479,856,370

West Malaysia

6. With regard to Primary and Secondary Education in West Malaysia, a sum of \$425.9 million for 1972 is the biggest provision amongst the allocations for the activities of the Ministry of Education. It exceeds the 1971 provision by \$57.6 million. This is due to the expected increase of enrolment in West Malaysia from 1,977,456 in 1971 to 2,096,372 pupils in 1972, i.e. an increase of 118,916 pupils.

7. A new and important project is the construction of 10 residential Science Secondary Schools. These schools will enable the increase of the number of Bumiputra pupils from rural areas in the science and technology streams. Besides this project, other ordinary hostels will also be built for secondary school pupils from far away places. At present there are 139 such hostels which accommodate a total number of 13,700 pupils.

8. 5 Technical Secondary Schools and 6 Vocational Secondary Schools are now being built in keeping with the emphasis on technical and vocational education. It is expected that the enrolment in the Secondary Technical Schools and the Secondary Vocational Schools will increase from 5,900 in 1971 to 7,690 pupils in 1972.

9. My Ministry is placing a special emphasis on the study and education of science and mathematics in schools. The efforts include the setting up of a Science Centre in Kuala Lumpur, the building of more science laboratories, increasing the financial provision to schools for purchasing science equipment, increasing the number of pure science classes in secondary schools, revising the syllabus and conducting in-service courses for teachers.

10. Another effort to improve the quality of education in the rural areas is by introducing the Health and Nutrition Programme to improve the standard of health of the rural children. My Ministry is working in close co-operation with the Ministry of Health on this programme.

11. Another programme under this activity is the Educational Mass Media Programme which includes School Broadcasting Programme, Audio-Visual Aids Programme and the Educational Television Programme (ETV). The E.T.V. programme is expected to begin in June 1972. These programmes are a means of improving and raising the quality of education in our schools.

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

East Malaysia

12. With regard to East Malaysia, a provision under this activity i.e. Primary and Secondary Education amounts to \$53.9 million. This amount excludes the balance of \$3.2 million from the Central Education Fund which is allowed to be expended. The sum exceeds the previous year's provision by \$5.1 million. As in West Malaysia, the increased provision is needed in view of the increase in the enrolment, payment of salaries of teachers whose number is also increasing and also for supplying schools equipment. The enrolment in East Malaysia is expected to increase from 324,241 in 1971 to 338,865 in 1972 i.e. an increase of 14,624 pupils.

C. Teacher Training - \$18,817,845

West Malaysia

13. A sum of \$15.3 million is required for teacher training programme in West Malaysia. The teacher supply programme to meet the demand of schools has been implemented last year as planned. The intake of teacher trainees this year will be about 1020 persons for primary teacher training and 1066 persons for secondary teacher training.

14. Besides supplying new teachers the intensive in-service training programme will also be continued.

East Malaysia

15. In the field of teacher training a sum of \$3.5 million is needed for East Malaysia. The provision is for the payment of salaries of lecturers and other staff of the Training Colleges, the training cost and the maintenance of Hostels as well as for the purchase of equipment. The number of teachers undergoing training is 902 in Sabah and 660 in Sarawak.

D. Conduct of Examinations - \$3,821,196

16. A provision of \$3.8 million is required for the conduct of examinations.

17. In 1971, 187,290 candidates sat for the Sijil Rendah Pelajaran and the L.C.E. examinations. It is expected that the total entries for the examinations will increase to about 197,000 persons this year.

18. The number of candidates who sat for the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia, MCE, Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan and HSC in 1971 had reached a high figure of 121,041 as compared to that of 1970.

19. The number of pupils who sat for the Malaysian Vocational School Certificate examination in 1971 was 1,700 and the number of entries expected for this year will be approximately 2,800 candidates.

20. The Examination Syndicate will conduct for the first time at the end of this year the Malaysian Commercial Certificate examination in accounting, book-keeping, shorthand and typewriting. It is expected that about 1,000 candidates will be sitting for this examination, either through schools or as private candidates.

E. Post-Secondary/Higher Education - \$64,959,560

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

21. In the field of higher education, a sum of \$64.9 million is required. This provision is required for operating expenses of all higher educational institutions i.e. the University of Malaya including the University Hospital, the National University, the University in Penang, the University of Agriculture, the College of Agriculture, Serdang, the Technical College, Kuala Lumpur and the Ungku Omar Polytechnic, Ipoh.

22. The progress which we can be proud of in the field of higher education can be seen during the past few years. Today the University of Malaya has 8 Faculties and the number of its undergraduates has increased to 8,584. The University is now concentrating more of its efforts towards having post-graduate courses under the Second Malaysia Plan.

23. The University in Penang is producing its first batch of graduates at the end of this academic year 1971/1972. The University has now acquired its own campus at the Mindan Barracks. At present, it has 5 schools of Studies and its present plan is to expand the existing facilities and also to increase the intake of students every year. During 1972 the University in Penang will establish two more Schools of Studies i.e. the School of Applied Sciences and the School of Building Science and Technology. Also during this year the Off Campus Education programme has started with an intake of 150 participants. The number of undergraduates in the University is now 757 and it is expected to increase to 1,000 during the academic session 1972/73.

24. The National University at present has 3 Faculties, and the number of faculties will be added from time to time. It is hoped that the Faculty of Medicine will be set up in 1973, and to achieve this objective a number of staff will be appointed this year to do the planning and organising work pertaining to it. An Institute of Malaysian Language, Literature and Cultural Studies will also be established in the University. The number of undergraduates at the moment is 570 and this figure is expected to increase to 1,080 during the coming academic year. The site for this University has been selected. It is in Bangi, near Kajang.

25. The Government has decided to establish a University of Agriculture at Serdang by means of integrating the College of Agriculture, Serdang and the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Malaya. The work connected with the establishment of this new University has already started and the intake of its first batch of undergraduates will begin in 1973.

26. Meanwhile the College of Agriculture, Serdang continues to play its prominent role in producing trained manpower in the field of agriculture in Malaysia. In 1970 the College trained 160 diplomates and about 320 diplomates are expected to be produced in 1973. In 1971 the number of students was 780 and this figure is expected to increase to 980 this year.

27. The number of students at the Technical College, Kuala Lumpur is expected to increase from 1,185 in 1971 to 1,280 in 1972. To overcome the present shortage of engineers, I am pleased to announce that with effect from this academic year 1972/73 the College will conduct courses in Engineering and Architecture at University level.

28. The Ungku Omar Polytechnic, Ipoh produced its first batch of diplomates numbering 202 persons in 1971. In 1972 the number of students is expected to be 1,000.

F. Scholarships/Bursaries/Training Awards - \$15,000,000

29. A provision of \$15 million is required for scholarships, bursaries and training awards.

30. In 1972, 624 scholarships and bursaries for First Degree Courses at the local and overseas Universities and 374 for Post-graduate courses including 361 for Diploma of Education will be offered. A total number of 17,991 pupils will be awarded Federal Minor Scholarships, and 6,300 students will be awarded pre-University Scholarships in 1972. The number of scholarships to be awarded will be 529 for students at Ipoh Polytechnic, 26 for teachers in the College of Agriculture, Serdang, 30 for teachers and 100 for pre-diploma students at the Technical College.

G. Welfare of Students Overseas - \$2,822,242

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

31. A sum of \$2.8 million is required for the welfare of students overseas. This provision is for the running of our Overseas Students' Departments, Hostels and Student Centres.

32. At the moment we are having 4 Malaysian Students' Departments i.e. in London, Australia, Indonesia and New Zealand. There are 4 Students Hostels overseas i.e. Malaysia Halls in London, Dublin and Belfast and the Malaysian Students Hostel in Cairo. There are 28 Students Centres and 24,000 students overseas.

H. Public Services and Regional Education - \$5,621,159

33. A provision of \$5.6 million is required for public services and regional education. From this amount, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka requires \$2.6 million. As in previous years, financial contributions totalling \$3 million in the form of grants are also given to a

number of overseas educational and cultural institutions such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) and the SEAMEC Central Co-ordinating Board on Tropical Medicine and Public Health. Contributions are also given to RECSAM in Penang and the Regional Institute for Higher Education and Development in Singapore, amounting to \$757,500 and \$35,757 respectively.

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

34. With this explanation, I beg to move.



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