

Children who mark time in schools



DR. MAHATHIR
... "waste of
money, effort."

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Education Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed said today that most students in technical and vocational schools do not appreciate the nature of their studies.

"Some of them feel that they are drop-outs who have to pass their time somewhere," he said.

"Others feel that their courses have nothing to do with their future."

For instance, some girls who were studying accountancy and commerce had already decided to become air stewardesses, he added.

Dr. Mahathir, who visited the Vocational Secondary School at Alor Malai and the Technical Secondary School at

TEACHERS SHOULD EXPLAIN THE COURSES: MAHATHIR

Simpang Kuala today, said that the Government was wasting its money and efforts on such students.

He suggested that headmasters of such schools tell prospective students from the beginning how difficult technical and vocational courses are, and what sorts of jobs and oppor-

tunities for further studying will be open to them.

Dr. Mahathir visited the two schools near here today to ascertain the extent of such opportunities. He expressed particular concern for those students who are not admitted to Form Four classes.

He said technical and vocational schools not only prepared students for higher institutions of learning, but also trained them as middle-level technicians who were much needed.

Both teachers and students must understand this, he added.

Dr. Mahathir was accompanied on his tour by State Director of Education Encik Jumaat bin Mohamed Noor.