

**Schools
warned
not to
grow
food
for sale**

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TANJONG KABANG

Fri. — Food production from school compounds should not be commercialised, Education Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed warned today.

"If this is allowed, it would adversely affect the livelihood of farmers and defeat the purpose of teaching agriculture to the pupils."

Dr. Mahathir was replying to a suggestion that schools should participate more actively in the Green Book Plan during a dialogue session at Sekolah Dato Harun here.

The Minister said the purpose of encouraging pupils to plant vegetables was to train them on the modern methods of agriculture.

"Selling the excess vegetables would cause a glut in the market and affect the farmers, posing problems for the Government."

"Pupils however, can use their knowledge to cultivate in their house compounds for their own consumption."

Dr. Mahathir suggested an adoption scheme in which a progressive urban school voluntarily "adopts" a rural school to exchange ideas and aid.

On the leakage of examination papers, he said action has been taken to tighten security to ensure that this would not happen again.