

# Should exams be held? poser for the public

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**PENANG, Thurs.**  
It is up to the public to decide whether automatic promotions should be abolished or should stay.

Education Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed, speaking to reporters at the Bayan Lepas airport on arrival from Kuala Lumpur yesterday afternoon, said:

"I propose to get experts to hold discussions on TV so that the public may understand the pros and cons of automatic promotions."

This, he pointed out, would enable the public to make up their minds and to decide whether examinations should be held.

He said those chosen to appear for discussions on TV would be from the various divisions of the Ministry of Education "who are experts in their respective fields."

He said: "In fact, all teachers unions recommend the total abolition of examinations except at the HSC level."

"On the other hand there are others who want examinations to be held every year in order to keep the children on their toes."

Therefore, Dr. Mahathir said, a careful study should be made about the purpose of examinations.