

Plan for more technical schools: Mahathir

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — More technical and vocational schools are to be built to meet the country's rapid industrialisa-

tion programme.

According to Education Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohammed, existing schools are not able to cope with the demands of industry.

"To ensure the success of our educational and training programme, Malaysia welcomes assistance of any kind from any source," he said.

He was speaking at the opening of the Colombo Plan Bureau Sixth Colloquium on Intra-Regional Technician Training at the Merin Hotel this morning.

"Malaysia is grateful to countries like Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Britain and Canada for helping to expand the country's technical and vocational education.

"Training places have been made available to our technical teachers and lecturers, and this

has enabled us to increase trained technical personnel to man the increasing number of schools providing technical education."

While the country needed aid to develop its skilled manpower it was also willing to help other nations in any way possible, he said.

Economic development plans could not succeed unless there were enough trained and qualified personnel, he added.

"Large capital investments are of no use if countries do not produce sufficient manpower.

"Educated and trained men are needed to man the factories and participate in business and also to guide the Government in numerous enterprises and efforts."