

Poor Form 1 readers 'cause for concern'

Ⓟ N.B.T. 28 APR 1975

MIRI, Sunday.

EDUCATION Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed expressed concern today over the poor reading and writing abilities of some Form One pupils in Sarawak.

"This is a problem which has to be taken seriously," he said at a dinner given in his honour by teachers and community leaders here.

He reminded parents of the important role they could play in the education of their children and advised them to report their children's weaknesses to the teachers.

"The Government may be able to provide the facilities and qualified teachers but the guidance is still a responsibility of the parents."

'No exams'

Dr. Mahathir met Sarawak's Chief Minister Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Yaakub and dis-

cussed ways to improve the standard of education in the State.

At a visit to the Bakalalan border district, Dr. Mahathir said the Government had set aside \$1.6 million to develop primary and secondary schools in Sarawak's 5th Division.

"The Government's decision to abolish the common entrance examinations for Sarawak schools will enable more students to gain admission into secondary and remove classes," Dr. Mahathir said.

"More schools would have to be built and the existing ones improved to accommodate the increasing number of students," Dr. Mahathir added.