

CHECK WITH MINISTRY, STUDENTS TOLD

# Beware of bogus schools: Dr M

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SABAK BERNAM, Monday.  
DEPUTY Prime Minister and Education Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed urged parents and students today to check with either his Ministry or the Education Department the existence of private schools which they wish to join.

This would ensure that they are not cheated of their money by unscrupulous people, he said at the opening of the \$129,000 extension of Sekolah Kebangsaan Parit Baharu, 15 miles from here.

Dr. Mahathir said there were many private schools now and numerous advertisements of courses and subjects such as engineering, accountancy and architecture were inserted in the papers.

"Parents and students must be cautious when choosing the schools they wish to join. They must not believe everything that is claimed in the advertisements," he said.

"Some of the schools are non-existent and some are run by only one person. Such people

would be missing after all the fees had been paid up.

Dr. Mahathir also advised parents to send their children to schools nearest their homes to cut down expenditure, and allow more time for the children to take part in extra-curricular activities.

He urged parents to join the parent-teacher association and play a more important role in their children's education.

School children Dr. Mahathir said, were now

more exposed to bad influences. "Primary school children are sporting long hair and have taken to smoking. This appears to be the beginning of other undesirable activities."

A joint effort must be undertaken to prevent youth from falling into bad habits.

Dr. Mahathir told pupils to look after their textbooks which were distributed free by the Government.