

Priority to the poorer schools: Mahathir

ULU TRENGGANU, Sunday.

PRIORITY will be given to the improvement of poorly-maintained Government-assisted schools under the Third Malaysia Plan, Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today.

Many of these schools were in poor condition and had never been given additional facilities. They will get first consideration for improvement, said Dr. Mahathir.

He added that because of this, the Education Ministry would be more careful in giving additional facilities to schools which were already well equipped.

"The Ministry will not give priority to requests for a school hall or sports field except under certain conditions only.

"Additional classrooms are more important and schools which are old and in poor condition will have a better chance of getting these facilities under the Third Malaysia Plan," Dr. Mahathir said.

Call to parents

He was speaking at the opening of the extra room project at the Telaga National School here.

The Education Ministry has reorganised its School Development Project Committee to analyse the problems and implementation of projects, especially in the rural areas.

He hoped that with the help of this committee, the students would benefit more from the various projects.

Dr. Mahathir urged parents not to leave their children's educational responsibilities entirely to the school authorities, teachers and Government.



DR. MAHATHIR

'Priority for poorer schools'

He urged them to take a greater interest in their children's studies.

He said he was still not satisfied with the performance of bumiputra students in primary and secondary schools and in institutions of higher learning.

"The Government has provided them with all the facilities and it is up to them to work hard to be successful in their studies," he added.

Dr. Mahathir also urged teachers to be more dedicated and sincere in carrying out their duties.