

'Only 170 of our doctors are Malays'

N.S.T. - 3/8
ALOR STAR, Wed. — Only 170 of the 2,700 Malaysian doctors are Malays, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad said today.

In view of this, the Government was making efforts to increase the number of Malay doctors to meet the needs of the people, especially the Malay community in the rural areas, he added.

He was speaking at the opening of the Sekolah Kebangsaan Padang Terap, 30 miles from here.

He said the Government's efforts to increase the number of

Malay doctors were criticised by some members of a certain political group.

They had spread a false concept about education, stating that it was against Islamic teachings for Muslims to take up courses like medicine and engineering, he said.

As a result of their action, he added, many Muslims had purposely failed their examinations, while others had lost interest in taking such courses.

Hooligans

The Government had spent millions of dollars to provide education for the people, especially those in the rural areas. The poor could only improve their standard of living through education, he added.

He regretted that there were people who denied the Government's efforts in this field and

instead accused the Government of negligence.

He said that the group was using children and teenagers in their election campaigns.

He regretted that the group had taught them to turn into hooligans and be ill-mannered, especially towards Umno leaders. They had been going around slandering Umno leaders, he added.