

# 'OPEN SYSTEM' TO BOOST EFFICIENCY

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — The government has decided to adopt the "open system" concept in its offices as another move to improve bureaucratic efficiency and increase productivity.

The Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, said today that government officials had already been told about the decision and it would be implemented gradually.

"In some offices, the concept has already been implemented," he said in an interview here on the eve of his first anniversary in office.

Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir said the government needed "a little bit of time" to implement the concept fully in all offices throughout the country as it involved the tearing down of office partitions and spending more money.

Under the concept, successfully implemented in some developed countries of the world, public officials are not provided with office rooms, except certain categories of officials who needed privacy.

He said: "There will be special rooms for members of the public to meet government officers. If a member of the public wants to meet a particular officer, the officer will have to go to the room."

"The room will have glass paneling so that whatever transactions inside will be in full view of the office," he said.

The Prime Minister was confident that government officials would like the new concept better than the existing one which tended to hide them in opaque rooms.