

Physical progress NST 28 DEC 1983 alone isn't enough

ALOR STAR, Tues. — While there has been substantial physical development, personal development leaves much to be desired, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

This was evident from the fact that facilities provided to the people were sometimes not looked after properly.

The irony about it was that facilities such as community halls and other buildings were built at the people's request.

"Those who do not value things are not likely to look after them,"

the Prime Minister said when opening a four-day convention on Kedah economic development organised by the UKM Kedah Students Association.

He said he was not surprised at such an attitude because people tended to forget one of the most invaluable gifts from God — time.

"Many do not bother to use their time to serve either themselves or the society," said the Prime Minister. "It is meaningless to give something if the things given are not properly used."

He said no matter what sort of convention or symposium was held, three factors — hard work, sincerity and trustworthiness — were what would really count in the final analysis.

Problems emerged when those given the trust to carry out some duties did not meet that trust, he added.

The slogan "Clean, Efficient and Trustworthy" was easy to say but harder to practise.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said in making any accusation, one must carefully weigh the pros and cons.

"We should not find fault only in others. If we do that, this world is going to be an ugly one."

He hoped in such conventions participants would single out weaknesses and shortcomings in the various areas of development in Kedah so that they could be overcome.

He warned that though everyone has freedom it would not benefit them if it was not properly used.