

# Dr M: Cabinet has approved Outline Perspective Plan

By Ahmad A. Talib and James Ritchie

KUCHING, Wed. — The Cabinet has approved in principle the Outline Perspective Plan (OPP) detailing the thrust of the nation's development programme between now and the year 2000, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said Cabinet Ministers representing all the parties and communities gave their opinion on the matter at the Cabinet meeting today and reached a consensus.

Speaking at a Press conference after the meeting at Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Dr Mahathir said the points raised by the Ministers would be taken into account when the OPP was re-drafted for next week's Cabinet meeting.

He expressed hope that the Cabinet would give the

plan its final endorsement next week and have it tabled at the Dewan Rakyat's next sitting. The Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's Department will re-draft the OPP in time for next Wednesday's Cabinet meeting.

Dr Mahathir said the contents of the OPP had received the Ministers' close attention.

The Prime Minister declined to elaborate on the points raised by the Cabinet and said that any elaboration on the OPP would be made after the OPP had been re-drafted and presented to the Cabinet again.

He called on the mass media to give its co-operation when reporting on the OPP, saying that it should not attempt to create misunderstanding by putting the various groups at loggerheads.

He stressed the need for compromise between the

various groups, emphasising that only through consensus could there be development and stability.

He said the Barisan Nasional Government had always functioned using consensus as its focal point. Dr Mahathir said not all communities or parties would get everything they want, but added that they would all get a reasonable degree of their desires.

In reminding the Press of its role as the Fourth Estate in a democracy, the Prime Minister said the mass media had a definite function in trying to maintain and promote stability in the country.

Asked to elaborate on the thrust of the OPP, the Prime Minister said the plan was geared towards achieving the vision of making Malaysia a developed nation by 2020.

He thanked Sarawak

Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud for allowing the Cabinet to use the state Cabinet room for today's meeting.

Meanwhile, opening the 44-acre Camp Permai at the foot of Gunung Santubong, about 32km from here later in the afternoon, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia would establish a series of "*Kem Membina Semangat*" or spiritual upliftment camps throughout the country to develop a society of moral and ethical people.

He said the philosophy of these camps would be in keeping with the nation's efforts to develop the human qualities of its people.

Dr Mahathir said "spiritual upliftment" camps were essential at a time when the main qualities of life were not only education and knowledge but also integrity and other intrinsic values.