

Govt to find ways to set up an open university, says Dr M

THE Government will try to find ways to set up an open university despite the constraints being faced, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said one of the constraints was the difficulty in getting qualified lecturers and professors in the country.

"Maybe the scope of the university would not be that big. But we will have to study it first," he said in response to a question after opening Gerakan's 20th annual delegates conference.

He said it would be easier for the open university to teach arts subjects, like languages, Geography and History but the Government wanted it to teach technical subjects.

"Teaching technical subjects to students studying at home would be rather difficult because of the lack of equipment. However, because we can use television (as a teaching tool), we might use it to teach the difficult subjects," he said.

On the decision of Asean Information Ministers to work together in overcoming biased reporting by the foreign media, Dr Mahathir said while it was a step in the right direction, the task would not be easy to accomplish.