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PM: Govt wants more private institutions

KUALA LUMPUR: The Government is encouraging the setting up of more private institutions of higher learning as they play a major role in reducing the outflow of foreign exchange, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He said the establishment of these institutions, which offered courses similar to foreign institutions, would also enable the pub-

lic to go for their studies at a minimal cost.

"These institutions are the forerunner of privatisation as they are established without the need for the Government to implement policy to the effect," he said at the opening of the Tun Abdul Razak Institute of Technology.

Also present at the ceremony were Defence Minister Datuk

Seri Najib Abdul Razak and Kewangan Usaha Malaysia Berhad chairman Hassan Harun.

Dr Mahathir also commended private institutions for being able to exercise tight control over the expenditures incurred in its operation.

"If we are to compare their method of operation, some are even better than the Government institutions."