

PM: Kelantan not left out of development

THE people of Kelantan will suffer if the Federal Government was to wait for the co-operation of the Pas-led Kelantan Government in carrying out development in the State.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday this was because while the Kelantan Government did co-operate, there were times when the co-operation was not forthcoming.

Dr Mahathir added that the Federal Development Department in Kelantan had been able to ensure that the State was not left out of mainstream development. Through the department, development ef-

forts by the Federal Government were streamlined and coordinated satisfactorily.

Dr Mahathir was responding to a supplementary question from Fu Ah Kiow (BN-Mentakab) and the original question from Mohamed Abdullah (S46-Pasir Puteh).

Mohamed sought to know whether the department was necessary and whether it would have an adverse effect on development.

The Prime Minister said the department was formed to plan, implement, coordinate, supervise and evaluate the development efforts by the

Federal Government in Kelantan effectively.

He said the existence of the department did not in any way bring negative effects on development efforts in Kelantan.

Queried in a supplementary question by Datuk Shukri Mohamed (S46-Machang) whether the department interfered with the work of the State Government, Dr Mahathir said the Federal constitution also outlined areas which were joint responsibilities of the Federal and State Governments.

This was in addition to the respective tasks of the Federal and State Governments.