

**STAR 14 OCT 2001**

# Visit parks to learn about nature, people told

**KUALA LANGAT:** Young people should learn to appreciate nature in parks, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

The Prime Minister added that the Government would do its best to open more parks but everyone had to help keep them clean.

He said this at a press conference after opening the Paya Indah Wetlands Park here.

The 3,100ha land for the park was given by the Selangor Government and consists of rehabilitated tin mining land, degraded peat swamp forest and permanent peat swamp forest.

It is close to the KL International Airport, Putrajaya and Cyberjaya.

It has the capacity for 1,300 visitors a day and was projected to receive 200,000 visitors in its first year.

Dr Mahathir said it would serve as a nature education centre for students and undergraduates.

Among the attractions at the park are four hippopotamuses from Botswana, estuarine crocodiles, swamp deer from India, cranes from China and a large variety of birds and fishes.

He said the entrance fees of RM7 for adults and RM5 for children was a "value-for-money" deal.