

PM: Fewer  
STAR 10 MAY 2002  
non-bumis

## sat for STPM

KERTIH: The high percentage of bumiputra students with STPM admitted into public universities this year does not reflect the actual situation, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He said it was higher than the 55% quota because fewer non-bumiputra students sat for STPM last year.

“Since their (the non-bumiputra students) number is small, naturally the number of bumiputras is bigger.

“But I think this is temporary. The number of non-bumiputra students taking STPM and applying to enter public universities in future is going to be higher,” he told reporters after opening the Petronas Petroleum Industry Complex near here.

He was commenting on an announcement by the Education Ministry on the higher percentage of bumiputra students with STPM admitted into public universities despite the introduction of the meritocracy system.

On another matter, Dr Mahathir said there were no plans to change the method of channelling *wang ehsan* (compassionate payment) to the Terengganu Government.

He said the practice of making the payment through public infrastructure projects was effective in ensuring people benefited from it.