

Dengkil zoo may not materialise

DENGKIL: The planned zoo in Dengkil near the Paya Indah Wetlands is not likely to become a reality because it will be too costly to set up another one after Zoo Negara refused to relocate to the area, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"We had wanted Zoo Negara to relocate here because there is adequate land and the area is suitable but it has so far declined because it wanted to continue in its present location," he said.

"We cannot set up another zoo here because the cost is too high. We cannot afford to have two zoos," he told reporters after witnessing the

presentation of five electronic trams by Tenaga Nasional Bhd to Paya Indah Wetlands here yesterday.

He also expressed satisfaction with the way the wetlands had been developed thus far, especially the planting of trees that would attract more visitors.

The electric trams, costing almost RM1mil, are the product of TNB's research and development effort and are designed to ferry passengers and visitors within the Paya Indah Wetlands.

Each tram is powered by batteries and has zero emission; thus it is clean, quiet and ideal for the wetlands that

encompass a myriad of eco-systems.

It features a low maintenance strategy and uses high capacity, minimal maintenance batteries to guarantee hassle-free use.

On the Gaya by-election, Dr Mahathir said Barisan Nasional was pleased with the outcome because the majority had increased by 300%.

Dr Mahathir, also Barisan Nasional chairman, said the poor turnout could be attributed to the over-confidence of Barisan supporters and the fact that it was only a by-election that would not influence any change in the government."