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PM's alarm over movies' influence noted

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DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said movies associated with sex and violence have negatively influenced Malaysian youngsters, Malaysia Nanban quoted him yesterday.

"There is not much of a storyline ...gun fights, murders and the like," he said. Any attempt at censorship, he added, would only draw accusations that the Government was curbing freedom of expression.

Yesterday's front pages of Malaysia Nanban and Tamil Nesan carried the report of the general election possibly being held early next year.

Barisan Nasional secretary-general Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat was quoted as saying the election was unlikely to be held this year.

Malaysia Nanban also highlighted the Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin conference in Putrajaya, which was opened yesterday by Mauritius Vice-President Raup Banthan. The two-day event drew delegates from six countries.

On the micro-credit scheme, MIC vice-president Tan Sri K.S. Nijar, who is also a director in Bank Simpanan Nasional, advised Indians to submit their applications for loans before Aug 31. Meanwhile, National Union of the Teaching Profession secretary-general Datuk N. Sivasubramanim urged the Education Ministry to arrest the decline in discipline among students.

In its Saturday editorial, Tamil Nesan implored the Government to monitor old folk homes for abuse.