Dr M denies having business interests in Australia

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IPOH, Fri. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir today denied that he had any personal business interests in Australia as alleged by a supreme council member.

"I welcome the person to make a statement on that before taking further action."

When questioned about an allegation that the Fleet Group had lost about $1 billion through bad management, the Prime Minister said: "I welcome the person to submit the letter".

The Prime Minister also denied that he had approved Bank Bumiputra Malaysia Berhad's loan to Maminco.

"I didn't approve it. It was approved by the Government."

He also refuted the allegation that the present policies embarked on by the Government were not approved by the Umno supreme council.

"The Government and the supreme council are two different things."

Answering yet another question on the Look East policy which the supreme council member alleged was not approved by the supreme council, he said: "No, the supreme council did not say so. The person did not raise this matter."

On the allegation that the challenge to his leadership was a sign that he should step down, he said the result of the last election was testimony that the present leadership received the support of the people.