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Reject baseless claims: PM.

Opposition supporters called on to think of country's well-being

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IPOH, Sat: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad called on Malaysians influenced by the Opposition's baseless allegations to reconsider and think of the country's well-being instead.

The prime minister said it is normal for the Opposition to focus on unfounded allegations to incite hatred against the government.

"For instance, I have been compared to Mustaffa Kamal Attaturk (the founder of modern Turkey) who murdered ulama and banned the Arabic language ... when did I do this?" he asked.

Speaking at the Sultan Azlan Shah airport here today after a two-day official visit to Perak, Mahathir said the Opposition is of the opinion that the people will support it once the seeds of hatred are successfully planted.

"This (opinion) comes despite them not having any plans or a track record to prove their ability to develop

the areas where they are in power," he said.

On his visit here, Mahathir, said he has briefed party members on the tactics and issues raised by the Opposition. He denied that he is visiting areas that have been recognised as opposition strongholds.

"This is part of my scheduled visit. I will go and meet all the branch and division leaders to brief them on the existing problems and also find out their problems and if possible, provide solutions.

"In fact, if it is possible, I would want to visit all the party's 165 divisions," he said.

Mahathir met with Umno members from the Parit Buntar, Bagan Serai, Parit and Beruas divisions yesterday. On the dialogue sessions held with these members, Mahathir said in general, these people do not have any problem supporting Umno.

"There are no contradictions on party principles. It is just that they are of the opinion that there should be certain development and allocations provided for certain matters," he said.