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Shahidan's way to check slander

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DATUK Seri Shahidan Kassim, who in the past caused controversies with his "original ideas", is at it again.

This time, the Perlis Menteri Besar is proposing a seminar entitled "Mulut Orang Melayu (Mouths of Malays)" to determine why Malays are fond of hurling accusations and slandering one another.

"The seminar will be held in Perlis in November," said Shahidan.

He said that of late, there had been a lot of backbiting and slander, an indication that there was a decline in moral and religious values among the Malays.

"I had even been accused of buying (parcels of) land at low prices and selling them for huge profits. This mindset must be corrected before they get to a point of no return," he said yesterday before presenting cheques for compensation to 12 residents whose land had been acquired to build the Teknologi Tenaga Perlis Consortium (TTPC) power plant in Kuala Sungai Baru.

Shahidan said the culprits were from both the Opposition and ruling parties.

He said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who would have retired as Prime Minister by then, would be invited to be a member of the panel.

Other invitees will include Royal Professor Ungku Aziz and former academician Tan Sri Awang Had Salleh.