

THE STAR

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# Resolve situation privately, reiterates Dr M

**SHAH ALAM:** Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has reiterated his call for a closed-door discussion to resolve the situation following the attacks on four churches in the Klang Valley.

He said although Christians and Muslims enjoyed a harmonious relationship", there were "immature minds" out to cause havoc.

"These people are unable to digest the matter in a rational manner and it is more important to have discussions behind closed

doors," he said, adding that while the more sophisticated or educated groups would respond positively, one could never be sure of the irrational ones.

Dr Mahathir pointed out that using the legal avenue to settle certain matters might not take into account sensitive issues, which could provoke tension.

"So, for the best interest of the nation, we must choose a better approach," he said after attending Proton's Family Day yesterday.

He also cautioned the Government against giving into the demands of people who were more liberal than others.

"Some people might make demands because they are mature but there are those around them who might not be. I think we should not be toeing the line of Western countries on the idea of being liberal," he added.

In **MUAR**, Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir said the *rakyat*

should heed the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's call to remain calm and respect all places of worship.

He said arson attacks could affect the business sector as foreigners might not want to invest in Malaysia.

Penang MCA deputy chairman Eng Hiap Boon said the attacks had created a bad impression among foreign investors and businessmen, adding that if the situation is not contained they might move out of the country.