

THE SUN

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Mahathir with his wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali at Epworth Hospital in Melbourne yesterday morning. The former premier is responding well to antibiotics treatment and physiotherapy.

DPM slams insensitive remark about Mahathir

KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said it was improper for PKR vice-president Azmin Ali to describe Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as a "fallen leader".

"This should not be the case. In politics, we must have moral values and as human beings we must also have mutual respect.

"Tun Mahathir is a reputable statesman who has contributed much to the country," he said to reporters when asked to comment on the statement by Azmin yesterday, describing Mahathir, who is undergoing treatment in Melbourne, Australia for lung infection, as "a fallen leader".

Azmin made the sarcastic remark in his speech at the opening of the annual general meeting for the

PKR Gombak division on Sunday.

The PKR leader was also quoted as saying that the remark was prompted by Mahathir's collaboration with Pertubuhan Pribumi Perkasa Malaysia, which was alleged to be championing a narrow racial agenda.

Muhyiddin said Azmin should be guided by humanitarian sentiments.

"When Tun Mahathir is unwell and is admitted to hospital, all Malaysians are praying for his speedy recovery and his return home to serve the country in his capacity as a former prime minister.

"So the statement was uncalled for because we have mutual respect for each other. (I) don't know if this is the style of leadership in the PKR," he said. - Bernama