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He reminded Umno and Barisan Nasional members, along with all Malaysians, not to be taken in every time Mahathir attacked, asking them to take a step back and analyse the facts when this happened. Najib said what Mahathir highlighted were allegations and problems as he knew that was how "to influence the people's minds against the current government and me".

Najib said Mahathir had done many noble and great things as prime minister, but he is no longer running the administration.

"Even if I step down, Tun will continue to intervene in the country's administration. He can say he is simply exercising his democratic right as a citizen, but this is Tun Mahathir," said Najib.

"People have a tendency to believe whatever Mahathir says even if it was not entirely accurate, and it has a significant effect on public perception as he is not just an ordinary citizen.

"That is why most former heads of government across the world do not intervene in the work of current administrations because whatever they say can easily affect the system," he added.