

PM: No plans to bring back GST

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THE government has no plans to reintroduce the Goods and Services Tax (GST), Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

He said his previous statement on GST had been taken out of context, leading to the assumption that the government would consider bringing back the tax regime.

"We (the government) have not discussed it yet.

"The matter (on whether the government will consider bringing back GST) was asked by reporters.

"I answered (by saying that) if this is the request of the people, and as we are sensitive to the

wishes of the people, we will study (the request).

"No study has been carried out, and since I made the statement, there has yet to be a (Pakatan Harapan) presidential council meeting," he said at the Parliament lobby here yesterday.

On Thursday, Dr Mahathir was reported as saying that the government would consider studying the re-introduction of GST if the people believed it to be better than the Sales and Services Tax.

However, Finance Minister Lim Guan Eng, in response to this, said there must first be "incontrovertible" evidence that the people wanted GST back.