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Nik Aziz explains Pas' stand

KOTA BARU, Thurs. - Head of the Pas consultative body Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said the party did not support the motion of confidence supporting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday because this might be "construed as if the nation is governed by a one-party State.

Nik Aziz said Pas had expressed support for Dr Mahathir in as far as the criticism levelled against the latter in a draft resolution by 34 US Congressmen.

The draft resolution has asked Dr Mahathir to either make a public apology for his alleged anti-Semitic and anti-American remarks or resign.

The Menteri Besar had, three days ago, asked Pas members in the country to support the Prime Minister and opposed any attempts by outside powers to undermine Dr Mahathir's leadership.

"Our support for Dr Mahathir was also in the context of his leadership in dealing with the US probe on Petronas," he said when asked to comment on the decision of Pas MPs who were absent when the motion was put to vote.

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