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Nik Aziz and Fadzil Noor disagree over women

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MALACCA, Sun. - Beautiful women can still hope to be employed in the Kelantan civil service if the Menteri Besar and his party president Datuk Fadzil Noor can agree on the issue.

Fadzil, speaking in Alor Gajah last night, said it was never the policy of Pas to exclude beautiful women from the civil service.

He said those who had been to Kelantan would have realised that not every female employee in the civil service was ugly.

Last Monday, Nik Aziz told the State Assembly that he had "whispered" to those who conduct recruitment interviews, to employ "less beautiful" women.

His statement came in for widespread condemnation by women leaders.

Fadzil, in an attempt to shift the blame from Nik Aziz, said he believed the Kelantan Menteri Besar was misquoted. However, Nik Aziz made the statement on the issue of beauty not once, but twice.

A day after addressing the State Assembly, Nik Aziz expanded on the issue by saying that beautiful women were not given priority in employment because they could easily find rich husbands.

Earlier in March, Nik Aziz said the State Government might prohibit women from working since men were supposed to be the breadwinners in their families.

Last night, Fadzil also criticised Umno leaders for what he saw as their inability to differentiate between "pretty" and "less beautiful women".

Referring to the Prime Minister and "others", he said those who saw women as being all attractive, regardless of whether they were "beautiful or ugly", as having an "alligator's eye." (Ini buaya punya mata)

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said on Wednesday that all women were attractive, citing the English saying, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

Fadzil also described Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah as "useless", and alleged the Kelantan prince's return to Umno was to "finish off Dr Mahathir's political career."

"His ambition is nothing but to fight Dr Mahathir and take over the leadership.

"Today, he apologised to Dr Mahathir ... He is a useless being (ini orang yang tak berguna)."

(END)