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Nik Aziz-Cabinet

NO REASON FOR STRAIN IN TIES OVER CABINET LINE-UP - NIK AZIZ

KOTA BAHARU, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat today called for continued cooperation between the federal and Kelantan governments although the state now has no representatives in the federal cabinet.

He said there was no reason why there should be a strain in the ties between the two sides merely because Kelantan no longer had any representatives in the cabinet.

"I hope the cabinet announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday can discharge its responsibility well," he said when contacted.

Nik Aziz said, however, that if the exclusion of representatives from Kelantan was aimed at punishing the people in the state for rejecting the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the Nov 29 general election, that would be improper.

On the other hand, he said the exclusion also showed that the federal government recognised the Kelantan government's capability and respected the people's wishes.

Meanwhile, Kelantan BN information chief Datuk Rozali Isohak said Dr Mahathir should reconsider his decision not to appoint anyone from Kelantan as a cabinet minister.

He said the state would lose out in the absence of a minister who could serve as a link between the people and the federal government.

"In the just ended general election, there were still a lot of people who supported the BN and they seek development," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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