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Nik Aziz-Kelantan

PAS UPBEAT RETAINING KELANTAN IN NEXT ELECTION

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 15 (Bernama) -- PAS is confident of retaining Kelantan under its rule for a third consecutive term in the next general election, Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said today.

He said he was basing his confidence on the people's acceptance of the Islamic administration implemented by the party since forming the state government in 1990.

"I'm confident we can retain the PAS-led state government in Kelantan as we have set the example of a moderate government," he told reporters after delivering his weekly Friday sermon, here.

He said PAS did not advocate extreme Islamic struggles, created chaos and enmity among muslims and non-muslims in the country.

Nik Aziz was responding to the statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad here yesterday that the Barisan Nasional (BN) can form the next State Government in Kelantan if all party members worked hard towards it.

Dr Mahathir said assessments made by BN assemblymen in Kelantan showed the coalition had a good chance of forming the next State Government in the state.

Nik Aziz said PAS had shown a system of governance that was acceptable to all people irrespective of race and religion and "in fact PAS has been accepted by Umno members and BN.

He said Dr Mahathir's one-day working visit to Kelantan yesterday and a brief meeting with him was a good indication that PAS would create history by forming the state government for a third consecutive term.

He described Dr Mahathir's visit as the federal government's recognition of the state government's administration under his leadership.

Asked on his meeting with Dr Mahathir, he said their discussions focused on matters for the well-being of the Kelantan people.

-- BERNAMA

MNR TS