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Kelantan MB to send official letter to PM over remarks

KOTA BARU, Mon. - Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat will send an official letter to the Prime Minister "to clear the air" over his remarks accusing Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad of not knowing how to recite the Quran.

His political secretary, Anual Bakhri Haron, conveyed this to reporters waiting outside the Menteri Besar's office in Kota Darul Naim.

Nik Aziz welcomed Dr Mahathir's statement that he was ready to accept his apology following the Menteri Besar's admission that he had erred during a ceramah.

"The Menteri Besar appreciates the statement by Dr Mahathir.

"He feels that he should not issue any further statement through the media concerning the matter.

"He will send a personal letter to the Prime Minister to make the situation simpler and less tense."

Anual Bakhri said the Menteri Besar had expressed the hope that this would put an end to the issue.

On the question of whether Nik Aziz would apologise during one of his ceramah, he said that as far as the Menteri Besar was concerned the issue was closed.

Anual Bakhri, however, would not allow reporters to see the whole content of the typed-written letter which he said would be mailed to the Prime Minister.

"This is in trust and I will not breach it," he said.