

# PM: States may lose aid

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## Terengganu and Kelantan must give up water control to Govt

PUTRAJAYA: Terengganu and Kelantan cannot expect to receive any more financial aid from the Federal Government for their water facilities and operations if they refuse to give up control over their states' supply.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he did not know why the two states wished to exempt themselves from federal control when they did not have enough funds to operate their own water supply.

"They encounter more problems than other states when it comes to distributing and supplying water to their people. For instance, the Kelantan state government cannot filter their water properly so their supply is always murky.

"Kelantan is always asking for financial aid from the Federal Government. They are asking for RM600mil and if we don't give them the aid, the people in Kelantan won't have water," he said after closing the Putrajaya Carnival at Precinct 8 here last night.

Dr Mahathir was commenting on Kelantan's objection to the Government's move to take over the administration of water management in all states in the peninsula, announced by Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu last week.

Earlier after a family day gathering at the Guoman Resort in Port Dickson, Dr Mahathir said he was sad over reports that three Malaysians were asked to strip for checks by the New Zealand authorities on their arrival in Auckland on July 19.

The holidaymakers from Malacca said they wanted to spend 10 days in New Zealand but were stripped naked and forced to spend the night in a lock-up before being deported the next day.