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Nik Aziz thanks PM for openness towards State

KOTA BARU, Tues. - Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat thanked Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is stepping down as Prime Minister on Friday, for the openness of his leadership towards Kelantan which is administered by an Opposition party.

Nik Aziz, who was delivering the State Budget for 2004 in the State Assembly yesterday, also thanked Dr Mahathir for helping Kelantan to solve its water problem and other projects.

Later, when met at the lobby of the House, he said the Prime Minister really works hard to perform his responsibility as a leader.

"I admit he is a hard working man and from the information that I got, Dr Mahathir has no time for rest, as he works day and night," he said.

Nik Aziz said the compliments he expressed in his Budget speech was the official "thank you" from the Pas-led State Government.

He said he would attend the ceremony on Friday when Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi succeeds Dr Mahathir as Prime Minister.