

18/09/2003

Pas sure of retaining east coast States

KOTA BARU, Wed. - Pas is confident of retaining power in Kelantan and Terengganu and capturing Kedah and other States despite Umno's optimism of regaining control in the State, said Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat.

Nik Aziz said the party had not run out of issues.

"We have plenty of issues (to bring up) and the biggest is about the unIslamic country. The basis of the country is democracy and not Islam," he said after a thanksgiving ceremony on the achievements of the Maahad Muhammadi's police cadet unit here yesterday.

The Menteri Besar was commenting on a statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at a Press conference here Monday that Umno had a good chance of recapturing Kelantan in the next general election.

On the Prime Minister's statement that the people must be thankful to the Government for bringing progress and development to the State, Nik Aziz said the people were "grateful and thankful" but it did not mean they must vote for Umno and Barisan Nasional.