

Action should transcend political ideologies, says Mahdzir Khalid
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ALOR SETAR - Kedah Opposition Leader Mahdzir Khalid on Monday called on all quarters to learn from the recent flood situation in the state and ensure that their action transcended political ideologies.

The assemblyman for Pedu said action taken during the recent floods showed the extent of work done by any leader.

"During the 10 days of floods, I asked myself how the people fared. I hope that in the future, action should transcend political ideologies.

"We have all gone through a process where it is difficult to resolve all problems and satisfy everyone, but the people should benefit from what has been done," he said during the debate on the motion of thanks for the royal address by Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah of Kedah in opening the budget session of the state assembly.

On the rise in water tariffs in the state effective Oct 1, Mahdzir said the previous Barisan Nasional (BN) state government should not be accused of irregularities.

"Why must the PAS government (of Kedah) claim that the construction of the water treatment plant in Padang Sanai is too expensive when it was decided by the technical committee?

"I sense a malicious intent here and I hope that such a perception should not be assumed (with regard to the previous government)," he said.

Earlier, State Industry and Investment, Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, Biotechnology, Water and Energy Resources Committee Chairman Amiruddin Hamzah said one reason for raising the water tariffs was the RM1.82 billion the state government owed the federal government.

The PAS state government had to bear the debt after having taken over the state administration because the repayments were not made as scheduled by the BN state government, he said when replying to a question from Mahdzir on the rationale for the increase in water tariffs. - Bernama

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