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# NEP still viable, says Nik Aziz

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**Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat says policy execution must change**

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**KOTA BARU:** Pas spiritual adviser Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat wants the New Economic Policy (NEP) to be retained.

Nik Aziz, the Kelantan menteri besar, said changes only needed to be made in the implementation.

"The NEP, as I see it, is a good policy in principle but its goodness has been tarnished by poor handling and implementation."

Nik Aziz, who was speaking after chairing the first exco meeting since the formation of the new state government, also denied rumours that he would not serve the full term, his fifth.

Nik Aziz, 77, said: "I'm quite healthy now... the medicines that I'm taking... many people are praying for my health."

On the five Pas-PKR-DAP controlled states, Nik Aziz proposed that their welfare programmes be streamlined.



**Wan Ubaidah Omar says her experience will give her an insight into helping women**

He also suggested that these governments set up a planning and co-ordination body to implement their welfare programmes in the five states.

The new executive council lineup has three new faces, including the first woman member to be appointed.

Kijang state assemblywoman Wan Ubaidah Omar will head the Women, Family Development, and Health Committee.

The 52-year-old mother of seven, who was widowed in 2001, said her own experience would help give her an insight into helping women, especially widows and single mothers.

The other new faces are Dr Mohd Fadhli Hassan (Temangan) and Che Abdullah Mat Nawi (Wakaf Baru).

They are responsible for Information, Information Technology, Science and Technology; and Agriculture, Rural Industry and Biotechnology respectively.