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Nik Aziz likens big win to a tsunami

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KOTA BARU: "It was a tsunami!" exclaimed PAS leader Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat when describing the big win by opposition parties in the general election.

The PAS spiritual adviser believed Malaysians were tired of being denied their right to freely express themselves and this had caused their disillusionment with the ruling Government.

"People are tired of being threatened and pressured by laws like the ISA (Internal Security Act)," he said at a late night press conference after the unofficial results were known.

Asked about the other factors leading to the big win, Nik Aziz said: "PAS had always championed the truth while Umno was *melampau* (overbearing)."

He declined to comment when

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DATUK NIK ABDUL AZIZ NIK MAT

asked to name his pick for the Kedah Mentri Besar's post.

Midway through the press conference, Nik Aziz appeared shocked

when party members informed him that the Opposition had wrested Selangor too.

He thanked Allah for the victory and said they would guard the victory well.

"I want to thank everybody, all the races that worked together with PAS to bring in this victory. I appreciate your support.

"We will approach this victory from an Islamic point of view and this means everyone is equal.

"All are brothers and sisters. There should be no more dividing people along racial lines," he said.

In a related development, PKR strategic adviser Saifuddin Nasution Ismail, who won the Machang parliamentary seat, lambasted the Election Commission for its delay in

releasing the official results in Kelantan.

"I am standing here and can clearly see the results displayed on the giant electronic billboard, yet the returning officer refused to announce it. Why are they waiting, I wonder."

He said the EC needed to be reformed, as in the digital age it was still struggling to announce the results of the polls, especially when it involved just 10 million registered voters.

Saifuddin said the big win by the Opposition was a reflection of how many Malaysians felt after four years under Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's tenure.

He promised to serve his constituents well in the Machang parliamentary seat.