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'Nik Aziz only defends those he favours'

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KOTA BARU: Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat must be impartial and not defend those who were close to him or aligned to his camp, said Kelantan Umno liaison chief Datuk Mustapa Mohamed.

Mustapa, who is also international trade and industry minister, said Nik Aziz had always defended those he favoured.

These included opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Selangor executive councillor Elizabeth Wong, but not those he disapproved like former Pas deputy president Nasharudin Mat Isa.

"If we want to give a view, it must be based on facts and not whose camp we are with. We should not be selective and chose whether that person is in our team or another camp. The most important thing is that we must not comment when the case is still in court and the complainant is firm with his or her stand."

Mustapa said after meeting a group of Parit Dalam night traders here, yesterday. He was commenting on Nik Aziz's statement that he (Nik Aziz) believed that the case against Anwar would be settled soon.

Nik Aziz, who had commented on the apology by Saiful Bukhari's father, Azlan Mohd Lazim, said the fabrications against Anwar would be revealed and the allegations (towards Anwar) would be cleared.

Mustapa said in Saiful's case, the court had already make its decision and the case was being appealed.

"If the case is being appealed, it means that the person who filed the case was dissatisfied with the decision. So, it is not right to make a conclusion as it is still in court."

Mustapa said even though Azlan had given his version of the case, Saiful had stuck with his own stand.

Meanwhile, Mustapa said the Kota Baru Municipal Council (MPKB) and state government should listen to the complaints of the people and settle them amicably.

Parit Dalam night traders adviser, Nik Rashid Nik Ismail, said MPKB had not issued licences over the past three years as it planned to move them to another location.

"We are not against moving, but the location chosen is not strategic. We do not mind if the new location is in the centre of town."