

**BN Member Questions Kedah Government Over Federal Funds For Road Maintenance**  
**Bernama**  
**November 16, 201**

ALOR SETAR, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- A Barisan Nasional (BN) opposition member today questioned the PAS-led Kedah government on this year's federal government allocation for maintenance of state roads which he claimed it has not utilised yet.

Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid (BN-Pedu) said the state government should have issued tenders for the benefit of the people and contractors.

"The money has been received but so far no tender has been issued," he said when speaking during the motion of thanks for the royal address by the Sultan of Kedah, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, in opening the 2012 Budget session of the State Legislative Assembly yesterday.

Without stating the sum allocated, Mahdzir asked why the state government spent only RM53 million of the RM146 million the federal government had provided last year.

Speaking to reporters outside the assembly later, he said that since the state government had yet to appoint contractors, it seemed that there would be no maintenance of roads this year.

Mahdzir said the allocation should have been given to the district offices.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak, when tabling Budget 2012 yesterday, announced that RM78.5 million had been allocated for maintenance of state roads next year.

In the assembly, Mahdzir had also raised the issue of the state government wanting to return a piece of land in Langkawi to its owner although, he said, it was seized in accordance with procedure and on the agreement of the owner in 2007.

The quit rent arrears on the land amounted to more than RM14 million, he said.

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