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Cuepacs-debate

RADICAL ATTITUDE OF LEADERS HOTLY DEBATE AT CUEPACS CONVENTION

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- The radical attitude of one or two Cuepacs leaders which was attributed to the delay in resolving the salary adjustment for civil servants was the subject of a heated debate at the 20th Cuepacs convention here today.

Most of the delegates debating the salary adjustment issue linked the radical leaders referred to by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in his opening speech to Cuepacs president Mohamed Mat Jid and secretary-general A.H.Ponniah.

Dr Mahathir, in his speech, said the delay in resolving the salary adjustment was due to the radical stand of one of two Cuepacs leaders.

One delegate said that whether radical or not, Cuepacs needed leaders who truly wanted to help resolve the problems of the workers and who were prepared to work hard to champion the lot of the workers, especially the low-income group.

Another delegate said Cuepacs leaders must adopt a moderate stand without jeopardising the future of the workers so that all problems could be resolved amicably to ensure industrial harmony in the public sector.

He said a moderate stand did not mean that a leader should easily back down in matters which went against the interests of the workers.

On the salary adjustment, the delegates who spoke left it to the Cuepacs leadership to resolve the matter with the Public Services Department (PSD) and hoped that the leaders would stick to the distribution formula proposed by Cuepacs.

Thirty-one motions, mostly on service and annual leave, will be tabled at the three-day convention.

The motions include one calling on the government to give paid leave to civil servants with 10 years service to further their studies at degree level or its equivalent.

Another motion calls on the government to increase the maternity leave for civil servants from 42 days now to 60 days besides giving three days' unrecorded leave for the death of an immediate family member. -- Bernama