

9 JAN 1996

Cuepacs-Salary

SALARY ARREARS TO BE PAID BEFORE HARI RAYA

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- Civil servants can look forward to being paid arrears of their salary adjustments before Hari Raya Aidilfitri next month.

Cuepacs president Mohamad Mat Jid said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had given an assurance that the 840,000 government employees would be paid before then.

Dr Mahathir gave him the assurance after opening the 20th Cuepacs Convention here today, he added.

Mohamad said the Prime Minister had discussed the salary adjustments with the Public Services Department and asked it to complete the salary adjustments before Hari raya.

"We are confident of the Prime Minister's assurance and hope all civil servants will receive their salary adjustments and arrears before Hari Raya," he told reporters after the opening ceremony.

He said Cuepacs believed that the PSD had prepared a report on the salary adjustments and distribution.

Cuepacs was ready to meet with the PSD for any discussions on the matter if asked to do so, he added.

Meanwhile, PSD Director-General Datuk Dr Mazlan Ahmad gave an assurance that all civil servants, irrespective of rank, would enjoy a fair salary increase under the salary revision.

The RM2 billion wage claims as agreed by the government should be distributed "fairly" among civil servants and "no one group should be getting the lion's share," he said.

He added that the PSD had always worked on the formula that "the distribution should be fair to everybody."

Speaking to reporters at the same function, Mazlan admitted, however, that the PSD was having "difficulty" in implementing the formula.

"All we are saying is fairness to ensure that nobody is left out intentionally... that is why we want to be sure that nobody is left out," he said.

In its RM2 billion wage claims submitted to the PSD recently, Cuepacs proposed a pay rise of between 29 and 41 percent for the lower-income group (still popularly known by its previous name as Group D), 12 to 15 percent for Group C, and eight to 10 percent for Group B. The three groups are now categorised under the Support Group.

The proposed increase for the management and professional group (previously Group A) was 2.5 to 5.8 percent.

Mazlan said: "PSD computers have been working overtime to ensure that a fair proposal will be submitted to the government. We have to come out with a hundred combinations and formulations to ensure that everybody gets fairness."

He would submit PSD's alternative proposals to that proposed by Cuepacs to the Prime Minister "pretty soon."

"The Prime Minister is aware of the principle upon which we are working out the distribution, he said. -- BERNAMA