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Automatic pay raise for civil servants mooted

Rosnazura Idrus

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - A motion to automatically promote a civil servant who has reached the maximum salary in the P1 salary scale to the nearest salary in the P2 scale, will be one of the 30 motions to be discussed at the Cuepacs 21st triennial convention which begins on Wednesday.

Cuepacs secretary-general N. Siva Subramaniam told a Press conference today the motion was important because under the new remuneration scheme (NRS), those who enjoyed the horizontal increment and had reached the maximum salary in P1 had no chance of moving on to the next salary scales - P2 and P3.

"Under the NRS, only five per cent of the total civil servants will enjoy the vertical (three per cent) and diagonal (two per cent) salary increment while the remaining will enjoy horizontal increment.

"For those who have reached the P1 maximum salary increment, they could be stuck there forever," he said, adding that this was not fair especially to civil servants who have maintained a good service record.

Also present was Cuepacs president Abdul Aziz Mohd Sultan.

Siva Subramaniam said the convention hoped to pass the motion and submit it to the Government for consideration.

He said the convention would also discuss a motion to change the calculation of salary payment from the current monthly basis to weekly basis.

This motion was brought up as Cuepacs felt that civil servants were losing one-month salary payment a year under the monthly calculation.

"Under the monthly payment method, one month is considered as having four weeks and so in a year there are only 48 weeks when in fact there are 52 weeks in a year - a difference of four weeks or one month," he said.

Cuepacs will also be discussing a motion to make the textbook loan scheme available to all civil servants' children.

"Some unions under Cuepacs have suggested making the scheme available to children of civil servants with a certain income level, but Cuepacs will propose making it available to all civil servants' children regardless of the income level," he said.

The three-day convention-cum-election which will be held at the International Youths Centre in Cheras will be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Siva Subramaniam said some 1,100 delegates from 103 trade unions were expected to attend.

Election for top office positions will be held on Thursday.

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