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No plans for staggered working hours outside KL

BANGI, Tues. - There are no plans to extend the concept of staggered working hours to government departments outside the Federal capital due to the cost involved.

Public Service Department Director-General Tan Sri Dr Mazlan Ahmad said the department had to be sure the concept was effective and to study, if adjustments were needed, before deciding to extend it nationwide.

"We need some time to gather feedback to see if the public makes full use of the system," he said after opening a seminar on Renewal of the Public Service towards the 21st Century.

He was representing Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali at the seminar organised by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Political Science Department, Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Manpower Planning Unit and UKM's Political Science Graduates' Association.

In January, staggered working hours were extended to all government departments in the Federal capital. Offices open from 7.30am to 4.45pm from Mondays to Fridays, and 7.30am to 1.15pm on Saturdays.

Mazlan said this was one of the steps taken towards speedier administrative processes. He was commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call to the public service to reduce red tape.

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