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Cuepacs preparing salary review for civil servants

KANGAR, Tues. - The Confederation of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Service is preparing a civil servants' salary review to be forwarded to the Government soon.

Its president, N. Siva Subramaniam, said today the union's working paper would also contain its evaluation of the New Salary Scheme which was implemented seven years ago.

He said Cuepacs had detected several weaknesses in the SSB which would be highlighted in the review proposal.

Siva Subramaniam was speaking to reporters after attending the launch of a one-day seminar on civil servants' salary review at the Bukit Temiang Agriculture Complex in Beseri.

The function in which Perlis Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim officiated was attended by 160 Cuepacs members.

"I hope no one will misconstrue our intention as a ploy to get the union's claims approved owing to the coming general election," he said.

He said a lot of the union's claims over the years had been approved by the Government owing largely to the good relationship between the two parties.

"Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has always been ready to meet the union leaders and has always been receptive to our proposals," he said.

Siva Subramaniam said another important recommendation contained in the working paper would be for the Government to raise the retirement age of civil servants from 55 years to "a more appropriate age".

He contended that the average lifespan of Malaysians, which now stood at 79 years, meant that some of them would spend more years as retirees instead of being experienced and productive workers.

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