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PSD-Salary

GOV'T ACCEPTS DEMAND FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENT BY FIVE STATUTORY BODIES

KUALA LUMPUR, June 4 (Bernama) -- The government will make a "positive announcement" soon on the salary adjustment demanded by five statutory bodies, Public Services Department (PSD) Director-General Datuk Samsudin Osman said today.

He said the full details on the decision would be announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad soon.

He said the "good news" had been conveyed to representatives of the five statutory bodies concerned when they paid a call on him at his office today.

"At the meeting, I told them that a positive announcement will be made and I asked them to wait for the announcement," he told reporters during a media conference on the Fourth Public Services Conference 1999, here today.

The five statutory bodies are the Social Security Organisation (Socso), Employees Provident Fund (EPF), Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN), Tabung Haji and Armed Forces Super Annuation Fund (LTAT).

More than 10,000 employees from these statutory bodies had demanded for a salary adjustment on grounds that their salary scale was lower compared to that of the others in the public service.

Samsudin said the representatives of the statutory bodies concerned had informed him that they would not proceed with their plans to picket following the latest move by the government.

"I thank the representatives of the statutory bodies concerned for accepting the matter in good faith," he said.

Meanwhile, Samsudin said the National Institute of Public Administration (Intan) in collaboration with the Administrative and Diplomatic Officers Association (PPTD) would organise the three-day Fourth Public Services Conference 1999 beginning July 15.

He said the conference carrying the theme "Transforming Human Resource Management in Meeting the Challenges of the Next Millennium" would be held at Intan, Bukit Kiara.

A fee of RM200 would be charged for each participant representing the public or private sector attending the conference which would be officially opened by Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali, he said.

Meanwhile, Cuepacs president N. Siva Subramaniam said the government's agreement clearly demonstrated that it was prepared to consider whatever demands made by its employees as long as they were reasonable.

Cuepacs was also grateful that the issue had been given serious consideration by Dr Mahathir and Samsudin himself, he said when contacted by Bernama, here today.

Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) president Senator Zainal Rampak, who is presently in Geneva to attend the annual conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), when contacted said that he had been informed of the matter by the Prime Minister in a letter dated May 25.

"In his letter, Dr Mahathir said that the government had agreed to consider the demands by the five statutory bodies concerned," he said.

The MTUC had sent a letter dated May 26 to thank the Prime Minister for his sensitivity on the matter, he added.

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