

25 MAR 1999

Moggie-JTM

JTM STAFF WILL BE GIVEN OPTION, SAYS MOGGIE

KUALA LUMPUR, March 25 (Bernama) -- All staff of the Malaysian Telecommunications Department (JTM) will be given the option whether to continue working with the government or not after the department stops operations on April 1.

Energy, Telecommunications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Leo Moggie said the department would cease to exist following the enforcement of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 on the same date.

"The government has decided that all JTM staff should be given the choice, whether to continue to work with the government, filling vacancies in other government agencies or be retired under Section 10(5) (b) of the Pension Act, retirement due to abolition of post," he told reporters here today.

Moggie said that following the dissolution of JTM, its regulatory functions would be taken over by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC).

The MCMC, established on 1st November, 1998, functions among others to advise the government on matters concerning the national policy objectives for the communications and multimedia activities and to recommend reforms to the communications and multimedia laws.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced the establishment of the commission in October last year.

Moggie said of the 188 JTM staff, only 144 who were under the JTM closed scheme would be offered other post and scheme of service.

The remaining staff were under the common users scheme and would undergo normal postings by their respective heads of service, he said.

He said that since the exercise could take sometime, it was decided that these posts be placed under the ministry until June 30, 1999.

"This is to give them sufficient time to decide their options," he said, adding that the Public Services Department was identifying suitable vacancies for JTM staff.

--BERNAMA

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