

PM: No decision yet on changes to NRS

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SHAH ALAM, Mon. — The Government has not decided on changes to the New Remuneration System, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said the Government was still consulting with Cuepacs, the umbrella organisation for unions in the civil service, on changes proposed by the body.

"We have not made any decision . . . we have been in consultation with Cuepacs on

what needs to be done," he told reporters after opening the Ericsson Mobile Communications Sdn Bhd plant.

Dr Mahathir said he had also met Cuepacs president N. Siva Subramaniam and discussed the contents of a memorandum submitted to the Government last year.

The New *Straits Times* today reported that heads of department will no longer be the sole authority in determining civil servants' annual increments.

The report said they would be replaced by a three-member panel which included a representative from Cuepacs.

Quoting sources, the report said the transfer of power to the three-member panel was made following criticisms by Cuepacs and the MTUC that certain heads of department had abused their authority by promoting favourites.

Dr Mahathir dismissed the report as mere speculation.