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Bonus

CIVIL SERVANTS TO GET BONUS OF HALF MONTH'S PAY OR MINIMUM OF RM500

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 13 (Bernama) -- Some 800,000 civil servants are to receive bonus amounting to their half month's basic salary or a minimum of RM500.

The announcement on the bonus payment was made by the Finance Ministry in a statement issued today.

The statement reads: "The government is very sensitive towards the welfare of civil servants, more so at the end of the year when they need to make various preparations and meet expenses, especially for their children's schooling.

"To reduce the burden of civil servants especially those earning low income, the Finance Ministry is announcing a bonus payment to civil servants amounting to their half month's salary or at least RM500.

"This will involve an additional operating expenditure of RM580 million."

According to the statement, the bonus payment will be made this month.

Last week, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that the government was studying the requests and appeals by the various parties including Cuepacs that bonus be paid to civil servants.

He stated that the matter was being studied by Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin.

Daim omitted to mention bonus payment for civil servants when tabling the 2001 Budget in the Dewan Rakyat on Oct 27.

When asked by reporters on the matter after the tabling of the Budget, Dr Mahathir said that the government was not allocating bonus for civil servants in the 2001 Budget as they have just been given a 10 per cent pay rise.

He said that the total amount they earn from the 10 per cent salary increase was actually more than one month's bonus.

-- BERNAMA

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