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Dr M has two-hour meeting with Cuepacs

PUTRAJAYA, Thurs. - Cuepacs today held a two-hour closed door dialogue here with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on matters ranging from child-care centres to national integration.

A 150-strong delegation from some 130 unions was led by Cuepacs president N. Siva Subramaniam. Cuepacs is the umbrella body for unions in the public and civil service.

Siva said the role of Cuepacs was discussed with Dr Mahathir who said the Government recognised it as a smart partner.

"In fact the Prime Minister was happy that unions in Malaysia were playing a very important role in the country's development."

Siva said the need to have child-care centres in all Government departments was discussed as it was felt that women were finding it difficult to send their children to nurseries.

"Dr Mahathir said the Government would look into the matter," Siva said.

He said Dr Mahathir was taking into serious consideration the position of 4,000 Sabah State Government employees who had been working as acting officers for the past 20 years.

"There are another several thousand State workers in Sabah who have been taken as temporary workers and not been confirmed in their posts, even after 20 to 25 years.

"The Prime Minister said he would look into it and direct a study to be conducted."

Siva said another matter was that of providing free transport for Government employees between Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak as a means of enhancing integration between the two areas.

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