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Pay full gratuity to those opting to retire early

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CREDIT must be given to the Government for its efforts in fighting the odds to help Malaysia recover from the economic crisis and putting the nation on course for recovery.

The current issue among the civil servants is whether to extend their service after 55 years of age.

Though the Government has decided to reject the proposal, the support for extension is growing greater so much so that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is willing to meet the unions to hear their supporting claims.

On the other hand, we, the optional retirees, are waiting for the Government to fulfil their promise.

Five months ago, the Chief Secretary said: "The Government will pay gratuity in full to civil servants who retire early (optionally) once the country's economy improves."

No one can deny that our economy is recovering and the question now is when is the Government is going to pay us our full gratuity?

Do have sympathy for us as we require the money to make various outstanding settlements and fulfil our commitments.

We hope that an early favourable announcement can be made to help ease our burden.