

Hadi seeks KL's help to fund pay rise

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KUALA TERENGGANU: The state government will give a month's bonus and 10% pay rise to state civil servants. The payment date, however, has not been fixed.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said the state government needed RM14.4mil for the salary increase and would discuss the matter with the Federal Government.

"We have decided to be in line with what the Federal

Government does (but) the question of when will be decided by the financial authorities," he told reporters after chairing the weekly state exco meeting yesterday.

He was asked to comment on a statement by State Secretary Datuk Senara Muda Mazlan Hashim that giving a bonus and pay rise would be difficult because of financial constraints.

Hadi said Terengganu

would not be burdened if it got an allocation from the Federal Government.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced a half month's bonus or at least RM1,000 and a 10% pay increase for civil servants when tabling the 2002 Budget in the Dewan Rakyat last Friday.

Asked whether the bonus for Terengganu government servants would be paid

"That I cannot promise now."

He also said that the state government's budget would be tabled at the state assembly sitting on Nov 11.

In Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said state civil servants would have to wait a little longer to know if they would be getting a 10% pay rise and a half month bonus like their federal counterparts.