

31 JAN 2001

Halim-Advice

ENHANCE TIES WITH THE PUBLIC, HALIM TELLS HIS SUCCESSOR

PUTRAJAYA, Jan 31 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali, who ended his duties as Chief Secretary to the Government today, advised his successor Tan Sri Samsudin Osman to enhance ties with the public to ensure continued excellence of the public sector.

He said one way would be to improve the services to the public.

"This includes counter service, handling of applications from the public, all this must be improved," he said when handing over his duties to Samsudin, the former Public Service Department (PSD) Director-General, at the Prime Minister's Office here.

The ceremony was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Halim, who will take over as chairman of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) tomorrow, said that although success had been achieved in many sectors, there were still complaints especially the counter service in several departments.

Another advice to Samsudin was the need to improve further the management of accounts of government departments.

"There is improvement but there is also weaknesses that need to be overcome," he said.

Halim was confident that Samsudin would be able to bring greater improvement in these two areas considering that many civil servants were committed to improve their work performance.

On his past two years as Chief Secretary to the Government, he said he was satisfied with the level of cooperation given by all categories of officers in discharging his duties.

On the appointment of women to important posts in the public sector, he said it was not only due to his efforts but also with the approval of the government.

Among other achievements during Halim's tenure as Chief Secretary to the Government was enhancing the status of Putrajaya as a federal territory.

"The declaration will be made tomorrow and all preparations have been completed," said Halim who was among the first group of officers to move here two years ago.

-- BERNAMA  
RIZ AZZ ABG