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Samsudin-Department

JOINT DEPARTMENTAL COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE HAS IMPROVED, SAYS SAMSUDIN

PADANG BESAR, Aug 11 (Bernama) -- Performance of the Joint Departmental Council set up at ministry, department and agency levels has improved after the directive by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that he wanted to see the implementation report.

Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsudin Osman said he submitted the first report to the prime minister recently while the second would follow suit soon.

Speaking to reporters after launching "Independence Walk 2001" here today, he hoped that every Joint Departmental Council would submit quarterly reports on the outcome of their dialogue or discussions to the Public Services Department before he submit them to Dr Mahathir.

Dr Mahathir instructed Samsudin on May 1 to submit the reports to him to see whether government departments and agencies could resolve problems arising at their level.

Cuepacs had claimed earlier that almost 50 per cent of government departments have not formed Joint Departmental Councils, resulting in difficulties in solving problems.

It was reported that only about 1,000 councils had been set up out of the 2,000 to be formed under Service Circular 2/1992.

Samsudin said every government department and agency must set up the council as an intermediary body to resolve problems particularly faced by the support group in the civil service.

Asked whether department heads were reluctant to form the councils for fear they would be the target of criticisms by the lower rung employees, he said it could be due to the heads of department too busy with their duties and responsibilities.

He, however, hoped that every department and agency would form the council to identify and solve problems effectively.

-- BERNAMA

AD TS