

# Better prospects for council workers

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Govt will review closed' service.scheme, says Mahathir

by R. Manirajan

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**CYBERJAYA:** Local councils will be revamped to create better promotion prospects for staff and to curb abuses such as corruption.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the closed service scheme that shuts the employees of local authorities out of the general civil service needs to be reviewed because it results in dead-end jobs and breeds unhealthy activities.

He said certain areas of the administration that involve full government services, such as the Parliament office, had limited opportunities for promotions.

This had led to the staff feeling bored because there is no future for them, he said.

"We are going to study these full services so that we can do away with them and make them part of the general civil service. This will allow officers from the civil service to be transferred to take over some of the posts

at local authorities and vice-versa.

"They will need to be categorised under the civil service," he told a press conference after opening a two-day seminar on urban management, themed *Good Urban Governance*.

Asked if he was happy with the current administration of local authorities and municipal councils, he said: "I am making a suggestion now because I am very unhappy"

However, he said some full service sectors must remain closed as they are specialised.