

# 'Civil service the best among developing nations'

15 OCT 2002

**SERI KEMBANGAN, Mon.** — Malaysia's civil service is the best compared with other developing countries, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

He said Malaysia's civil servants were recognised by other governments for their efficiency.

"Compared to other developing countries, Malaysia's administrators are more efficient. Many of our civil servants are asked by foreign governments to help train their officers," he said at the Public Service Department 2002 annual dinner here.

He thanked the civil service and its staff union, Cuepacs, for their cooperation with the Government.

"I am grateful that there has never been a strike by civil servants. I am thankful to Cuepacs for always being responsible and for seeking dialogues instead of striking."

Dr Mahathir also said there was no nepotism in the recruitment of civil servants.

"Last time, the old way of doing things was for the department head to recruit his own family members and relatives.

"This is no longer practised. Ap-

pointments are made without personal ties," he said.

On the revised remuneration scheme for civil servants, or the Malaysian Remuneration System, Dr Mahathir said it was impossible to fulfil every workers' demands.

"It is not easy to please one million civil servants. We can't keep changing the salary structure. We must maintain parity.

"If we raise the salaries of a lower group of officials, then those above them will start making claims for higher pay, and then those above this group will also start demanding a raise.

"In the end, the original intention to reward those who are hardworking and competent, is not achieved," he said.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

Also present were Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsudin Osman and PSD director-general Tan Sri Jamaluddin Ahmad Damanhuri.