

14 JUL 2002  
Mahathir-NRS

DR M: REVISED NEW REMUNERATION SCHEME TO BE TABLED IN CABINET SOON

PUTRAJAYA, July 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today he would table at the Cabinet meeting soon the revised salary system under the New Remuneration Scheme (NRS) for government employees.

He said the revised scheme would be implemented after the Cabinet gives its approval.

"It's up to the Cabinet whether to approve the (salary) report or not," he told reporters after officially launching the 2003 Le Tour de langkawi (LTdL) cycling championships, here.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Finance Minister, said he had studied the reply by the Public Services Department (PSD) to the counter proposals made by the Public Sector Committee on Salaries and Posts to the department last month.

Under the NRS matrix system implemented since 1992, only five per cent of the civil servants were eligible for vertical and diagonal pay rise every year and this had created dissatisfaction among government employees.

Cuepacs, the umbrella body for public sector unions, had asked the government to scrap the matrix system as it claimed 95 per cent of the public sector employees were disappointed with the system.

It had proposed to the government to replace the NRS with a single-tier salary system, which was more transparent and systematic, and one that focused on employees' efficiency and productivity.

Early this year, the PSD submitted a report on the salary review to Dr Mahathir after holding negotiations with Cuepacs.

Dr Mahathir, however, instructed the department to study several matters in the interim report as it involved about RM1 billion in additional financial expenditure.

-- BERNAMA

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