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Ministers: We'll sign good conduct letters

Ramlan Said

PUTRAJAYA, Wed. - Cabinet members today agreed to sign the letter of undertaking of good conduct.

Several ministers confirmed they had agreed to the matter.

Rural Development Minister Datuk Azmi Khalid said a decision on the matter had been made although "it was not really discussed".

On when ministers would sign the letter, Azmi said it was up to the administration to fix the date.

Women and Family Development Minister Datuk Shahrizat Jalil also confirmed the decision.

"Yes, the Cabinet agreed," she said.

Another minister, who did not want to be identified, said it was up to the Chief Secretary to the Government to decide on the details, like whether an official ceremony would be held to mark the occasion.

The ministers said this after witnessing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad welcome cyclist Hasan Nawawi Abdul Rahman, who recently cycled around the world.

Dr Mahathir had said yesterday that the question of members of the Cabinet having to sign a letter of pledge of good conduct would be determined at its next meeting.

As such, he said, the question of whether or not the Cabinet had agreed to the proposal did not arise.

Dr Mahathir had added that normally an announcement would be made only after certain matters had been discussed by the Cabinet.

He was commenting on local news reports today quoting him as saying ministers would be required to sign the letter of pledge of good conduct.

The Prime Minister had said the news reports gave an impression that members of the Cabinet had not agreed to sign the letter.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsudin Osman said a sizeable number of government servants had signed the letter.

However, he could not give the exact figure as the signing exercise was on-going.

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