

11 DEC 2002

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PUAS ON TWO-WEEK DRIVE TO CLEAR OUTSTANDING WATER BILLS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- The Perbadanan Urus Air Selangor (PUAS) will launch an operation to cut water supply to premises with outstanding water bills in Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat, Sepang, Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam from Dec 19.

Syarikat Sungai Manggis Holdings Sdn Bhd had been appointed by the state government to assist PUAS in collecting the water bill arrears in the two-week "Ops Kutip III".

PUAS advised consumers to settle their outstanding water bills to avoid any inconveniences especially during the coming end of year holidays, it said in a statement here today.

Consumers can show their payment receipts to avoid their water supply from being disconnected during the operation. PUAS has also assured the public that their water supply would be reconnected the same day once payment is made.

However dwellers of premises found to have illegally reconnect their water supply are liable to be compounded up to RM12,500.

PUAS said they could also face a maximum fine of RM50,000 or two years imprisonment or both.

-- BERNAMA

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MTUC WILL CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE FOR MINIMUM WAGE

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) will continue to struggle for a minimum wage, its president Senator Zainal Rampak said today.

He said the MTUC felt a commission should be set to study the MTUC proposal for a minimum wage.

The Government had maintained that the minimum salary should be determined by market forces, he said when contacted.

On the retirement age, he said the MTUC was thankful to the government for raising it to 56 from 55 and expressed the hope that in the future it would be further raised.

Yesterday, the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, had stated that the government had rejected the proposal to raise the retirement age to 58.

Cuepacs President Datuk N. Siva Subramaniam had said the retirement age issue was now closed following the Prime Minister's statement.

Zainal said under the present situation the government should think about making the government machinery more efficient and retain some of the officers from the support group who had vast experience.

-- BERNAMA

AZJ MFJ AAM