

05 JAN 2002

Samsuddin-Pledge

SAMSUDDIN: UP TO STATE GOVTS TO ADOPT GOOD CONDUCT PLEDGE CIRCULAR

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 5 (Bernama) -- It is up to state governments to adopt the circular on good conduct pledge for civil servants issued by the Public Services Department (PSD), Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsuddin Osman said today.

He said the circular was only for federal government employees while civil servants in the states would be subjected to it if state governments decide to enforce the circular.

"It's up to them (state governments) if they want to implement it in their administration. The circular is only meant for federal government employees. If they do not want to enforce it, it's up to them," he told reporters at his Hari Raya open house in his residence here.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali also attended the open house.

On three months given to civil servants to sign the pledge, Samsuddin said it was not for them to think but to prepare the administrative procedures including printing of the forms.

He said the three-month period also took into account the 960,000-odd federal government employees.

Samsuddin said he was confident that civil servants would sign the pledge when the time comes as even without that, they were still bound by other circulars and government regulations.

"As long as they are government officers, they are bound by the General Orders and regulations governing public officers' conduct and discipline," he said.

He said all elements stated in the pledge are also found in the General Orders and Regulations on Conduct and Discipline of Public Officers.

"It's only that by signing the pledge, civil servants will be more sensitive to their duties and responsibilities and always remember the regulations as long as they worked with the government," he said.

Samsuddin said the PSD would explain the elements stated in the pledge so that they would understand it.

On the three government employees who are among the latest batch of 13 Kumpulan Militant Malaysia (KMM) members arrested under the Internal Security Act (ISA), he said any action to be taken against them would be according to procedures.

He said he was leaving it to the respective department heads to take appropriate action against those involved.

A Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) lecturer, a teacher and a headmaster are the three civil servants arrested.

-- BERNAMA

AKT AZZ TS