

PKR backs Cuepacs' SBPA demands
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PKR supports the Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services' (Cuepacs) demand for an increase in civil servants' salaries before the New Civil Service Remuneration Scheme (SBPA) is implemented.

According to PKR vice-president Nurul Izzah Anwar (right), PKR supports Cuepacs' demand for a salary rise of between RM700 and RM2,500 for grade 1 to grade 54 civil servants, before any changes are made to the remuneration scheme.

"PKR urges the prime minister to review the new remuneration scheme as demanded by Cuepacs as well as PKR, in order to protect the civil servants," she told reporters at the PKR headquarters in Petaling Jaya today.

Quoting the United Nations Public Administration Network Public Service 2006 report, she said the highest ranking civil servants earns 19.5 times the salary of the lowest one.

"PKR also recommends a mandatory wage increase every five years, so that the inflation-adjusted raises can be implemented in a more efficient and fair manner," she said.

Nurul Izzah added that this is in line with the Pakatan Rakyat alternative budget which commits to a minimum pay of RM1,100 for civil servants.

"This implementation will benefit about 300,000 civil servants who today are still earning below RM1,100," she added, noting also Pakatan proposes to give an extra RM500 to be given to every teacher.

She said that this is in contrast with the SBPA, which gives officers in the "premier category raises of up to RM80,000 while a driver would get a raise of as low as RM1.70 a month".

Yesterday, Cuepacs president Omar Osman said the congress is demanding an increase of RM700 for grade 1 to 16 civil servants, RM1,000 for grade 17 to 26, RM1,500 for grade 27 to 40, RM1,800 for grade 41 to 48 and RM2,500 for grade 52 to 54.

Cuepacs has been in a tussle with the government over the introduction of the SBPA, which it argues unfairly rewards higher-ranking officers compared to their lower ranking counterparts.