

**PM: New civil service pay scheme scrapped**  
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak announced today that the government has decided to scrap the new civil servant remuneration scheme (SBPA) after heavy resistance from the latter.

najib putrajaya 280212Addressing over a thousand of civil servants in Putrajaya this morning, Najib (left) said the decision was arrived at after feedback from the civil service.

"With this announcement, the Skim Saraan Malaysia (SSM) is reinstated with improvements," he said.

The scheme was supposed to be have been implemented on Jan 1 but delayed pending review, after facing heavy resistance from the civil servant union, Cuepacs.

Among others, Cuepacs argued that it was poorly consulted and that the scheme unfairly favours higher grade employees.

According to Najib, the remuneration scale will be as follows:

- \* A hike of 13 percent for management and professional from grades 1 to 54,
- \* A hike of 9 percent for those in groups A, B and C,
- \* A hike of 8 percent for those on levels 2 and 3,
- \* A hike of 7 percent for those on level 1 and the chief secretary.

During the announcement, Najib also said that the government had agreed for the Cost of Living Allowance (Cola) to be increased from RM200 to RM250 for the B area, and from RM100 to RM150 for the C area.

The PM said that since Jan 1, the government had received 1,000 complaints and memorandums on the SBPA, including recommendations from 23 organisations.

"We hope all parties will no longer feel dissatisfied. I hope that this is the best solution," he said.

Commission to study civil servants' demands

Najib also announced the formation of a commission to study the demands of civil servants.

The commission will be made up of interested parties, including representatives from the Finance Ministry and Cuepacs.

Meanwhile, commenting on the matter, Cuepacs president Omar Osman said that he will raise several unresolved issues with the commission.

"We feel a little relieved that this commission is being set up. Otherwise we keep having to set up committees to resolve issues," he said.

Omar also hopes that the wage increase will not be followed by price hikes which would burden consumers.

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