

Pay rise for civil staff no small matter

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Government is always finding ways to help the civil servants, especially with regard to their salary and allowance requests, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said.

"But before a decision is made, we have to take into consideration the financial capability of the Government as it is a huge expenditure," he told reporters here yesterday.

"If there is an increase in productivity, this would be strong justification for a review of the salary and allowances of civil servants," Najib said, adding that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi had called for a better delivery system in the civil service.

Meanwhile, Cuepacs urged the Government to decide before Labour Day on the civil servants' salary revision and the proposed increase in the retirement age from 56 to 60. The civil servants union supports retirement at 60.

Its president Omar Osman said the salaries of low-ranking civil servants needed to be reviewed as the last revision was made 15 years ago.