

# PM: Govt to consider public opinion before deciding on IPCMC

**PUTRAJAYA:** The government will take note of public opinion first before making any decision about setting up an Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission (IPCMC), said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"There are those who are for the proposal (on the IPCMC) and those who are against it. The government will listen to public opinion (before any decision on IPCMC is made)," he said in response to outgoing Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mohamad Fuzi Harun, who was reported as saying 130,000 serving

police personnel and retired personnel had voiced their opposition on the matter.

Speaking to reporters after the launch of e-commerce platform Bohai Commodity Exchange (BOCE) Malaysia/Asean, when asked if he was willing to meet the police to discuss the matter, he replied: "I always meet people, even you (reporters)."

It was reported on Tuesday that the police force did not want to hand over the power to take disciplinary action against its personnel to the IPCMC.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir said subsidising fresh graduates'

salaries was one of several proposals that the cabinet has deliberated on in a move to reduce Malaysia's dependence on foreign workers.

However, he said no decision was reached on the proposal as the government had to factor in all aspects, including the availability of funds for such a move.

"There is a suggestion to have the indirect subsidy channelled through companies employing them (fresh graduates), which the company can volunteer to participate in. It is only a suggestion... no decision has been

made yet on the matter."

Dr Mahathir said this in response to a report in a local Chinese daily stating that the cabinet on Wednesday had looked into providing RM6 billion as allowance and salary subsidies for fresh graduates, a move which reportedly could help 50,000 young Malaysians obtain employment.

Earlier, in launching Malaysia's first commodities e-commerce trading platform operated by a Malaysian company, Commodities Global Trade Sdn Bhd (CGTSB), Dr Mahathir said CGTSB held the exclusive rights

under BOCE of China.

"These rights primarily allow Commodities Global Trade to cater for the whole Asean market while making Malaysia the new gateway for Asean venturing into the China market.

"Putrajaya is now one of the six global offices operating outside China, apart from the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Ukraine and Australia. Effectively, it makes Putrajaya the new hub for e-commerce trade for the region."

He said China was Malaysia's largest trading partner and had been so for 10 consecutive years.