

Armed forces veterans' pension to be reviewed, too

KUALA LUMPUR: The first meeting to review civil servants' service and retirement schemes, scheduled for next Monday, will also include the armed forces veterans' scheme in its agenda.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said pensionable and non-pensionable veterans would be included in the review.

He said the government could continue giving aid to the people, including veterans, but this would not solve the problems they faced.

"I have discussed the matter with ministers, chief secretary to the government and the Public Service Department director-

general. If we do not make improvements to the scheme for veterans, we will continue to be saddled by this problem.

"So, next week, at the first meeting to review the civil servants' service and retirement scheme, we will include armed forces veterans' scheme in the agenda.

"The study is expected to take six months and will take into account the financial implications.

"I'm not promising the moon and the stars, but I am confident that we can settle this once and for all."

He said this at the Armed Forces Veterans' Entrepreneur

Empowerment Programme at Wisma Perwira here.

Present were Defence Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Maslan and armed forces chief General Tan Sri Afendi Buang.

Anwar said: "I will discuss this matter with Zahid (Deputy Prime Minister and Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi), so that Mara, Risda... all government agencies, government-linked investment companies and government-linked companies include veterans in every decision, be it for loan facilities, jobs or agriculture facilities."



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim with veterans at the Armed Forces Veterans' Entrepreneur Empowerment Programme at Wisma Perwira in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BERNAMA PIC