

# Anwar: Retirees' pension amount will not decrease

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government has given its assurance that it will top up the pension amount for retired civil servants to ensure that it is not less than what is currently received, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

"Although there is a court decision, the government, specifically the Treasury, has decided to top up the amount considered insufficient so that it is not less than the (pension) salary that should be received," he said.

Anwar said this at the "Malam Sumbangan Kasih" event with

the Administrative and Diplomatic Officers Alumni (Alumni PTD) here on Wednesday night.

On June 27, the Federal Court affirmed the Court of Appeal's decision to declare the Pensions Adjustment (Amendment) Act 2013 as null and void, rendering the amendments no longer applicable to government retirees.

However, in July, the government decided that the July pension and derivative pension for civil servants who retired before and from 2013 be paid with the

original amount.

This resulted in pension payments for civil servants who retired before 2013 being restored to the December 2012 amount, while civil servants who retired from 2013 onwards had their pension payments restored to the original amount at the time of retirement.

Anwar said the difference between the current pension amount and the original figure will continue to be paid in the form of a special aid known as Special Recognition for Retirees to enable the amount received by

pensioners to be the same as the one received in June this year.

Earlier, in his speech at the dinner, Alumni PTD president Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali expressed concern that there would be a decrease in the pension amount next year following the Federal Court's decision.

On the study of the Public Service Remuneration System (SS-PA), Anwar said the government was committed to thoroughly looking into the matter, but added that this would require some time.

"On salary adjustments, the issue will certainly be looked into and studied, and I believe the SS-PA has not been reviewed for 11 years. This is not about winning over the civil servants, but this is the reality.

"It should be reviewed every 10 years, but because there has been non-stop politicking, there was no opportunity to look into civil servants' issues.

"But now, there is a committee to review the salary and allowance scheme for civil servants, *InsyAllah*, this will be resolved." **Bernama**