

'CIVIL SERVICE PAY HIKE PLAN AMONG THE BEST BY GOVT'

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Anwar says people will hope for better service

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THE proposed new civil service remuneration scheme will be among the best to be introduced by the government, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said the scheme would also have the "highest financial implication" on the government's coffers.

"The system is among the best to be introduced by the government, with the highest financial implication (thus far involving civil servants' salary scheme).

"This means we also hope for better performance and for civil servants to work more seriously."

He said this in his keynote speech at the town hall session with the Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic Service Association (PPTD) at the Putrajaya

International Convention Centre.

He said there had not been a study on the pension scheme for 12 years.

Anwar, who is finance minister, denied claims that there would be some civil servant groups who would be left behind or sidelined in the pension system reform.

"During my meetings with the chief secretary to the government and the Treasury secretary-general, I reminded them that I didn't want even one group to say they are being left behind.

"It is untrue that some groups were not given attention."

Also present were Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali, Public Service Department director-general Datuk Seri Wan Ahmad Dahlan Abdul Aziz and PPTD president Datuk Seri Isham Ishak.

Anwar had previously said the Public Service Remuneration Study Main Committee (JIKSPA) meeting had almost finalised the civil service salary structure, which would be decided on by the cabinet.

Meanwhile, he said the civil service reform did not acknowledge "lazy" civil servants and



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking at the town hall session with the Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic Service Association in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

those with weak performances.

He said the small group of non-performing civil servants had tarnished the image of the majority, undermining the reform that the government strove to achieve.

"If we want to elevate the civil service and become more efficient, we reward not based on age and length of service."

He said this small group must be curbed, along with culture of corruption and the old mindset in public administration.

He urged civil servants to be more effective and efficient in implementing government policies and decisions.

"I sometimes feel 'suffocated'. I'm supposedly slower, but I'm sometimes faster than 40-year-olds.

"So, whenever there is a cabinet decision conveyed by the chief secretary to the government, secretaries-general, we will not succeed if we're stuck in the old ways."

If civil servants felt that the cabinet's decisions were unwise, said Anwar, they should give their input to the government,

especially on new policies.

Citing Penang, he said there were about 2,000 hardcore poor people despite being a developed state with among the highest incomes.

"With investments in tens of billion ringgit, Penang has among the highest income compared with other states.

"I told the chief minister that I want this to be resolved this month as we have the capabilities."

He announced an additional RM2 million allocation for the PPTD, saying this would allow for more effective programmes and initiatives.

He urged administrative and diplomatic officers to "think outside the box" to improve the civil service in line with new developments, including energy transition and digital transformation.

"Yes, we have rules and procedures, but you're smart.

"I hold discussions with secretaries-generals and directors-general every few months on how we can improve governance."