



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking to shoppers at the Mahkota Square Ramadan Bazaar in Kuantan on Saturday. BERNAMA PIC

CENTRAL DATABASE HUB

RAFIZI TO EXPLAIN PADU ISSUES TO CABINET

PM makes request after Sarawak premier raised concerns about registration

KUANTAN

ECONOMY Minister Rafizi Ramli has been asked to clarify the Central Database Hub's (Padu) registration issue at the cabinet meeting this week.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said this after Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg raised concerns about the system.

"Yesterday (Friday), I had a discussion with the Sarawak premier and he voiced some concerns and raised some questions.

"The economy minister has been asked to examine the issue and provide an explanation to the cabinet."

He said this when asked to comment on the Sarawak government's call to extend the deadline

for people in the state to register and update their information on Padu.

He said this after a walkabout at the Mahkota Square Ramadan Bazaar here on Saturday. Present was Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail.

On Saturday, Rafizi said his ministry would hold a meeting on Padu with the Sarawak government this week.

An order addressed to district and administrative officers in the state to hold off registrations on Padu has gone viral.

More than 7.36 million people, or 35 per cent of the population, have registered with Padu. The deadline to register is March 31.

Chief Statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said the figures suggested that the records of more than 10 million citizens, involving heads of households and their dependents, had been entered into the database.

He said the Department of Statistics anticipated a significant increase in registrations in the next few days as the sign-up rate had been growing recently.

When Anwar was asked to comment on the request for the gov-

ernment to provide financial aid to civil servants and pensioners for Hari Raya Aidilfitri, he said a RM2,000 incentive had been given to civil servants.

"We just approved RM2,000. In a few months, we will pass the new remuneration scheme to increase salaries, so we have to look at it in that context."

The Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services (Cuepacs) had asked the government to continue the tradition of providing Raya aid to civil servants.

At the state-level Madani breaking-of-fast event here, Anwar alluded that there would not be another Aidilfitri "bonus" for civil servants.

He said the RM2,000 early incentive payment disbursed to civil servants was meant for Aidilfitri.

However, he hinted that more benefits, including salary increments, awaited civil servants once the review of the Public Service Remuneration System (SS-PA) was completed.

"Recipients of the RM2,000 (incentive) are none other than civil servants." **Bernama**