

Is Najib's Broad Smile A 'Positive Sign' For Civil Servants?
Bernama
September 24, 2011

BATU GAJAH, Sept 24 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today gave a broad smile when asked about the possibility that the government would announce a bonus as well as a pay hike for civil servants in the 2012 Budget.

Will the 'smile' bring good news to the civil servants?

"I maintain the stand that anything that is to be announced in the budget should not be leaked out earlier," he said with a smile to reporters after launching the 1Malaysia Carnival at Tanjung Tualang, here.

Najib was asked to comment on a report in a Malay daily today that quoted a source as saying that the government would announce a salary increase for civil servants who would also receive a bonus in the 2012 Budget to be tabled on Oct 7.

The report stated that the percentage increase in salary to be enjoyed by the civil servants was still unknown but they had previously received a pay rise of between 7.5 and 35 per cent in 2007.

Commenting further, Najib, who is also the Finance Minister, said the 2012 Budget would boost confidence in the domestic demand in the face of external economic uncertainties.

"It must stimulate investment and boost confidence among the consumers to continue spending prudently so that the internal economy would continue to be based on strong demand whether in terms of investment or consumption.

"We have specified a new National Key Result Area (NKRA) to face the rising cost of living. So, we are looking at how we can continue to assist the people in tackling the cost of living," he said.

Najib and his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who was on a one-day visit to Perak since this morning, arrived at Tanjung Tualang town at about 12.15pm and were warmly received by local residents.

The Prime Minister and his wife were also entertained to a cultural performance by the local community.

---BERNAMA

Copyright © 2011 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/newsindex.php?id=615585>