

**Important For Civil Service To Get People's "Buy-In" - Muhyiddin
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 20 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin has reminded civil servants not to get carried away in self-indulgence in realising the target under the National Key Result Areas, saying it is also important for them to obtain the "buy-in" from the people for these initiatives.

The deputy prime minister said it was also incumbent upon them to correct any misconception towards the noble efforts of the government.

"The people should aware that what the government is doing is for their own good," he said when opening the 16th Civil Service Conference, here today.

"The civil service should not engage in 'seronok sendiri' (self-indulgence) in realising these objectives," he said, adding that civil servants should continuously think about whether the people understand these initiatives or whether the impact was large enough for them to appreciate these efforts.

"I would like to reiterate here that the people are watching and assessing our efforts and we cannot be mindless about this because this will cause negative perception towards the civil service," he said.

The prime minister said: "We should detect, reflect and correct all our actions in realising the initiatives."

He added that the civil service should be strong, innovative and creative and having a clear vision and committed towards realising the "1Malaysia, People First, Performance Now" objectives.

"We, as a team, should continue with the transformation agenda through the four pillars of transformation, namely 1Malaysia, Government Transformation Programme, New Economic Model and the 10th Malaysia Plan," he said.

Muhyiddin also spoke about the government's commitment in tackling the rise in the cost of living and urged civil servants to be at the forefront in implementing the action plans set out by the government in an effective and efficient manner.

He said to combat the high cost of living, the government had implemented numerous initiatives including introducing the 1Malaysia People's Shop, 1Malaysia Housing Programme and the 1Malaysia Welfare Programme.

These programmes would only become a reality, however, if civil servants understood the needs and aspirations of the people, he said.

"Remember that civil service is about giving the best to the society," he said, adding that it was important for each action to accord first priority to the people's need.

Civil servants should also meet and interact with the people so that they would be able to

listen and give attention to their problems, he said.

"No less important is the need for the government to be inclusive and get the people to participate in drawing up policies so that objections and dissatisfaction can be avoided," he said.

On the New Civil Service Remuneration Scheme, he said, it would provide a platform to transform talent management in the public service, which he said would see a radical change in the career development of civil servants.

To ensure the success of the new scheme, he said, the civil service should instill a high-performance culture among its members.

Among those present were the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan and Public Service Director-General Tan Sri Abu Bakar Abdullah.

The two-day conference also involved 20 renowned figures in the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organisations and aimed at exchanging views on ways to strengthen the delivery of service to the public.

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