

**SBPA: Government Responsive To People's Aspirations - Muhyiddin  
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KUALA LUMPUR, March 8 (Bernama) -- The cancellation of the Public Service Remuneration Scheme (SBPA) and the adoption of an improved version of the Malaysian Remuneration System (SSM) proved that the government is very responsive to the people's aspirations, said Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He said the move was taken after a committee set up to review the SBPA found that it was not in line with the 1Malaysia concept: People First and Performance Now.

The prime minister decided to review the SBPA for the government found certain criteria proposed by the Public Service Department needed to be amended, he said after launching new commuter trains "Mykomuter" in KL Sentral Terminal here Thursday.

In announcing the cancellation of the SBPA and the adoption of an improved version of the SSM, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak outlined salary adjustments for various grades and categories of staff up to the Chief Secretary to the Government.

Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, hoped teachers would also be happy with the decision made and the assurance given by the prime minister.

"As stated by the prime minister, teachers should not feel despondent. The promises made in the budget (the 2012 Budget) will be fulfilled, and the details will be announced by the PSD soon," said Muhyiddin.

When asked whether the next general election is around the corner for the SPBA had been resolved, he said, no decision had been made yet.

"Everyone can speculate the dates of the election for the status of the SBPA has been resolved, there is no harm.

"What I do know, we are still focusing on the preparations for the general election, what we can do. What is important we must achieve victory," he said.

On allegations that the RM2.2 billion Kinrara-Damansara Expressway (Kidex) project was awarded to a company favoured by the government, Muhyiddin said the application by the company was submitted through proper channels and was evaluated by government agencies such as the Economic Planning Unit.

"There is no reason why we should reject the company's application for the decision made was based on merit," he said, adding that the government adopted an open mind and would readily accept any proposal from anyone who want to upgrade the public transportation system.

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