

**Nation's Success Built On Close Ties Between Government And Civil Servants – PM  
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PEKAN, Aug 4 (Bernama) - The nation's continuing success over the years is built on the close cooperation between the government and the civil servants.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the good ties went back since the nation's independence as evident by the understanding between both parties.

"The cooperation and support of civil servants in implementing government decisions help us to solve the people's problems," he said when breaking fast with Pekan district civil servants Saturday night.

Without this, the nation's big transformation from over 50 percent poverty during the early independence years to what it is today could not be achieved.

"The government's poverty eradication efforts are among the best. We changed the nation's status from agriculture to medium to high agriculture."

Najib said the government had given special attention to the welfare of civil servants via various initiatives to keep the bond strong.

"Earlier this year we gave civil servants pay rise of 7 to 17 percent involving an allocation of more than RM4 billion.

"Recently, we announced bonus of half month salary in conjunction with Aidilfitri celebration in recognition of civil servants."

He urged civil servants to remain dedicated in carrying out their duties while the government continues to look after their welfare within its means.

On another note, Najib said many people are still unaware of the sacrifice made by members of the armed forces, police and others in keeping the peace.

"There is no bigger sacrifice than putting your life on the line for the sake of the nation," he said when presenting contribution to Royal Malaysian Air Force members, widows, orphans and chronic patients at RMAF base here.

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