

**Government's 2013 Budget Provides Better Deal For Civil Servants**  
**Bernama**  
**October 10, 2012**

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 10 (Bernama) -- The government's 2013 budget proposals for the country's 1.42 million civil servants are far superior than Pakatan Rakyat's proposed shadow budget which appears to have given them a poorer deal.

Statistics gleaned from the government's Budget 2013 showed that the amount earmarked for emoluments was RM58.6 billion as presented by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in the Dewan Rakyat on Sept 28.

But PR has proposed only RM56 billion for emoluments for government employees, a reduction of RM2.6 billion.

Hypothetically, such a reduction could translate into abolishing 72,000 jobs in the civil service if one were to calculate an employee's average pay at RM3,000 a month or RM36,000 a year.

In addition, PR's budget proposal for government pensioners was shown at only RM12.1 billion compared with the government's allocation of RM13.6 billion.

In total, the government's allocation for emoluments as well as pensions and gratuity will amount to RM74.2 billion as opposed to PR's proposed RM68.1 billion, a reduction of RM6.1 billion.

Even if one were to take into account the proposed RM4.4 billion payout by PR to provide a minimum wage of RM1,100 to about 300,000 civil servants earning less than RM1,000 a month and a special teaching allowance of RM500 for teachers, the government's allocation for civil servants and pensioners for 2013 is still higher by RM1.7 billion.

PR has also proposed a bonus payment of RM2.8 billion to 2.8 million senior citizens above 60 years at RM1,000 each.

But the government's 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M) 2.0 appears to be more encompassing as it has earmarked RM3 billion for 4.3 million households earning less than RM3,000 monthly and 2.7 million single individuals above 21 earning RM2,000 and below monthly

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