

PR: BN's minimum wage 'almost no change at all'
Malaysian Insider
October 04, 2012
By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 4 — The ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition's minimum wage policy brings about "almost no change at all", the federal opposition Pakatan Rakyat (PR) said today.

"The announced minimum wage rate of RM900 for the peninsula and RM800 for Sabah and Sarawak is actually inclusive of allowances, which effectively means the basic wage is still between RM700 and RM800," PR said in a statement signed by PKR's Chua Tian Chang, the DAP's Liew Chin Tong and PAS's Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

"This means the purported changes were almost no change at all," they said.

PR asked BN Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin (picture) to join the federal opposition coalition in demanding that the government "declassify" a confidential World Bank report titled "Optimal Design for a Minimum Wage Policy in Malaysia" dated July 28, 2011.

PR also said that talk that "an additional RM200 in minimum wage would bankrupt companies is simply untrue."

Yesterday, Khairy had attacked PR's proposal to set the minimum wage at RM1,100.

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