

Pakistan Wants To Learn About Malaysia's Public Sector Reform

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 15 (Bernama) -- Pakistan, which is moving towards its Vision 2025 agenda, looks forward to learn about Malaysia's public sector modernisation and civil service reform, said its Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Professor Ahsan Iqbal.

"We are very much interested to learn from the Malaysian experience because in the last two decades Malaysia has reported impressive growth rate," he told BERNAMA in an interview at the Pakistani High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

He said that Malaysia and Pakistan shared similar administrative background, pointing to the British administrative structure which both countries inherited.

"There is similarity in the culture of both countries," he said.

Elaborating on Pakistan's Vision 2025, Ahsan said that it was launched by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in August last year and among others, focuses on producing pro-business and performance driven public sectors as well as civil service in the country.

The Pakistani minister was in Malaysia on an official visit for three days from March 12 where he met Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Idris Jala and Director-General of the Public Service Department, Tan Sri Mohamad Zabidi Zainal.

Ahsan said that during the meeting, they discussed the possibility of cooperation between Pakistan's National School of Public Policy (NSPP) and Malaysia's National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) regarding exchange of experts and civil servants.

NSPP is an institution for training of civil servants in Pakistan and has had linkages with public administration institutes from China, Turkey and Russia.

"Follow-up from this visit, we have invited experts from Malaysia to visit Pakistan and they were very happy and accepted the invitation," he said.

The Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform has the primary responsibility to implement Vision 2025 in partnership with the various ministries in Pakistan.

Under Vision 2025, Pakistan aims to be the world's top 25 economies, a leap from its current 44th position.

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