

**CUEPACS Hopes PM Will Announce Salary Increase This Wednesday**  
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ALOR SETAR, June 14 (Bernama) -- The Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Service (CUEPACS) hopes that the minimum monthly salary of RM1,200 for civil servants will be among the announcements made by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak at the Civil Servants' Gathering this Wednesday (June 17).

Its president Datuk Azih Muda said this was because the increase in salary from RM900 to RM 1,200 a month would lighten the burden of civil servants in facing the rising cost of living.

"Of course, civil servants are waiting for the increase in their salaries. They hope that Najib will announce something that will make them happy to welcome the month of Ramadan and the coming Aidilfitri festive season," he said.

He said in addition, CUEPACS was also asking that the housing allowance be standardised for civil servants in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak as the cost of house rentals is high.

He said the housing allowance in the peninsula was RM180 a month and civil servants had to use their own salaries to pay rental of more than RM300 a month.

Azih said the rental rates throughout the country including Sabah and Sarawak were the same, exceeding RM300 a month.

"The government must standardise the allowance so that it (rental) is not a burden on civil servants who have always stood strong behind Najib's leadership," he said.

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