

Najib Mulls Rewarding Ministries That Exercise Thrift
Bernama
June 17, 2015

PUTRAJAYA, June 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today proposed a new approach whereby ministries or departments which exercise thrift in their spending can receive again a part of their savings.

This would be in appreciation of the efficiency of the ministries or departments in saving costs so that they could implement other programmes or give incentives to their officers, he said.

"It is the tradition now for us to look at the budget approved every year and praise the ministry that spends all the allocated funds.

"The criteria is that the allocation is totally spent, but is that the absolute criteria? Why are we not challenging ourselves? We can achieve our objectives and KPI (key performance index) but can reduce expenditure as well," he said at the 14th Premier Civil Service Dialogue here.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and cabinet ministers as well as the Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa, were also present at the event. The annual dialogue has been organised since 2000 to enable the prime minister explain government strategies and plans to enhance the quality of service to the people.

Najib cited an example by saying that if the education ministry was able to save RM1 billion of its allocation, it should be given a part of the savings.

The current practice was to channel the unspent money to the consolidated fund, he said.

"If we save on costs, the treasury will get back the allocation. There will be people lamenting that they were able to save on costs but the money goes to the treasury and they are not able to appreciate the savings," he said.

The prime minister suggested that the new approach be discussed by the Chief Secretary to the Government, Public Service Department, secretaries-general of ministries, civil servants and Cuepacs.

He also declared his openness to reward civil servants who demonstrated high performance with remuneration commensurate with the productivity gain they realised.

Such rewards had been introduced through vertical and diagonal salary movements and salary progression gauged through assessment of efficiency, but these had been abolished, he said.

"I propose that an objective instrument of assessment be established in evaluating and

appreciating civil servants who demonstrate high performance and that they be rewarded accordingly," he said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1144907>