

BANTUAN PRIHATIN NASIONAL

It is unfair to deny civil servants cash aid, says Cuepacs head

KUALA LUMPUR: The Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services (Cuepacs) has described the suggestion to deny civil servants the Bantuan Prihatin Nasional (BPN) cash aid as unfair and narrow-minded.

Responding to a view expressed by a financial consultant during a discussion programme organised by a Malay-language daily, Cuepacs president Adnan

Mat said it was unfair to claim that civil servants were not affected by the economic impact brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We feel that the statement by the financial consultant is narrow-minded. It only touched on a small group and did not represent all households. The criteria for the distribution of BPN are based on the income of a house-

hold or the entire family, and not based merely on the factor of being an individual.

"In this context, the government has fixed the distribution of the cash aid to households from the Bottom 40 and Middle 40 income groups apart from individuals from the two segments. The classification of the income segments is irrespective of whether they are from the gov-

ernment or the private sector," he said yesterday.

During a programme titled "Dari T20 Kepada M40" (From Top 20 to Middle 40), Hijrah Wealth Management Sdn Bhd founder and main consultant Rohani Md Shahir had reportedly said it was *zalim* (unfair) to give the aid to all people.

Adnan had said it was unfair to claim that civil servants were not

eligible to receive the aid despite the fact they still received their salaries amid the economic uncertainties brought by the pandemic.

"Not all civil servants are eligible to receive the aid if their monthly income is over the requirement limit set by the government. The same is applicable to those working in the private sector."